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## Advertiser News

# 60¢

Volume XXI Number 4

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

January 29, 1998

## Power Plant Breaks Ground With Ceremony

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Under the watchful eyes, cameras, and videocam of a few project opponents, town officials joined company representatives at a ceremonial ground-breaking on Tuesday afternoon at the site where Berkshire Power will build a \$185 million, 272 megawatt power plant.

Although the possibility of union picketing threatened to become the latest controversy in Berkshire Power's 3½ years on the rocky road to construction, the ceremonial shovels hit the dirt without incident.

The situation had been touch-and-go for some hours before union members called off their plans to picket the site after a non-union contractor was spotted clearing snow from the site that morning.

Berkshire Power spokesman Anthony Cignoli said the tense situation turned out to be a chance for the company to "make lemonade out of lemons by giving us the chance to publicly state our strong commitment to using union labor on this project."

Cignoli said he had mistakenly asked one of the landowners, a non-union contractor, to clear away the snow as a favor and that the work had been done without payment. Until the deed on the land purchase has been recorded, Cignoli said he considered the landowner to be their landlord and responsible for plowing the snow.

### Completely Labor-Built Project

In a statement released just hours before the ground-breaking, Cignoli said, "We have already called and deeply apologized to the Operating Engineers and recommitted our support to this project as being completely labor-built, as we have signed in our construction contract. Berkshire Power unequivocally has committed itself to being a pro-labor project. We will strongly, publicly make this commitment again this afternoon."

The two-year construction process will begin in late March, according to Power Development Co. CEO Kenneth P. Roberts, Sr.

Berkshire Power's project manager during the development phase, Roberts announced his successor at the ground-breaking ceremony. Frank Basile, of East Longmeadow, was named as the project manager for the construction phase and general manager for operations upon completion of the plant.

Basile, who earned his degree in mechanical engineering at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, brings eight years of experience in constructing and running electric generating plants to the project.

Citing local and regional benefits the plant will generate, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said, "It's about time."

In addition to bringing construction and permanent jobs to the community, Johnson said the plant will be a major taxpayer and a major source of revenue through water and sewer use fees of more than \$900,000 a year.

Asked if the price he'd paid in political fallout for his support of the power plant had been worth it, Johnson questioned whether that had been the only issue leading to the erosion of his popularity with the voters seen in the last two elections.



**GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONIES FOR BERKSHIRE POWER'S \$185 million gas-fired electrical generating plant was held on Tuesday, January 27th, at the plant's site on Moylan Lane. IN PHOTO ABOVE, some of the officials who attended wait for the start of the ceremony. From left - Christopher C. Johnson, mayor; Nancy Thompson, Agawam Town Councilor; Fritz Gautschi, president, U.S. Power Generation Businesses, Asea, Bover-ti, Brown (ABB), Kenneth Roberts, Power Development Company chief executive officer; Michael Armitage, Power Development Company president; and Joann McGeoghan, Berkshire Power staff member. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.**



### Worthwhile Project

"Nothing worthwhile ever comes without a lot of hard work and sacrifice," Johnson said. "I've always thought the project was worthwhile for Agawam and I continue to support the project as worthwhile for Agawam."

Targeted for ballot box retribution by power plant opponents for her steadfast support of the project, Town Councilor Nancy Thompson has no regrets.

"I am a woman of my convictions," Ms. Thompson said. "I did my homework on the issues and I made my decisions based on what's best for Agawam. As a health care professional, I'm pleas-

ed that a clean, efficient power plant, like Berkshire Power, will mean that old plants will be taken off line. That's an environmental plus."

Former Councilor Chris Quatrone discounted the idea that his support for the plant had cost him his council seat, pointing out that several other plant proponents had won reelection and had finished high in the standings.

Quatrone said he continued to support the plant as he has done before, during and after serving his two-year term on the council.

SEE BERKSHIRE POWER - Page 2...





**BERKSHIRE POWER HANDED OUT PLAQUES** to several people in the community at the ceremonial ground-breaking on Tuesday, January 27th. From left - Susan Pettazzoni, Vivian Dziardziel, Laurie Littlefield, and Stephen Brouillette. **IN PHOTO RIGHT**, Berkshire Power staff member Joann McGeoghan presents Mayor Christopher C. Johnson with his ground-breaking plaque at a small reception at The Oaks Banquet facility on Suffield Street. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

#### BERKSHIRE POWER - from Page 1...

Another former councilor criticized for supporting the project, Vivian Dziardziel continued to promote the project after declining to seek reelection two years ago.

As the organizer and chairperson of Concerned Agawam Taxpayers, Mrs. Dziardziel said, "It's gratifying that something we've worked so hard for has come to fruition. This is going to be a great thing for the town. The plant will have the most efficient technology that exists and it will be modeled by power producers across the country."

At Mass Power in Indian Orchard, Basile served as the project engineer for five years, bringing the plant through the construction and start-up phase into operation. For the last three years, Basile has been the Operations and Maintenance manager at Selkirk Cogeneration in Albany, New York. Upon graduation from the Maritime Academy, Basile

worked for five years as a field engineer.

Aware of the division in the community over the three-year battle to site the plant he will be overseeing, Basile said he had met power plant opponent Michael DelNegro at the ground-breaking ceremony and welcomed his comments and concerns.

"I respect his issues and welcomed him to touch base with me," Basile said. "We'll continue to work on this throughout construction and during the operation of the plant."

DelNegro said he did not think it appropriate for Berkshire Power to be "flirting with our town officials" when there are still issues pending that will require the approval of town officials, including an oil storage license, a building permit, and the possibility of a payment in-lieu-of-tax agreement.

"But, more importantly, they (Berkshire Power) made promises during the permitting process. I would hate to see our town officials look the other

way because of friendship," DelNegro said.

A Springfield native, Basile will take over as project manager on February 9th. When construction begins, his office will be on site in the construction trailer. Until then, he can be reached at Berkshire Power's office at 430 Main Street.

Basile said he was excited to be returning to the area after working out-of-state for the last three years. "This is the opportunity I've been waiting for," Basile said. "I'm confident that with my background and my local ties, I'll be able to respond to the issues and make sure the promises we have made will come to fruition."

#### Contributing Member Of Community

Among those promises, Basile reiterated the company's pledge to recruit from the local area in filling job openings. Basile said his first priority is becoming a contributing member of the community.

**SEE BERKSHIRE POWER - Page 4...**

## "Home is where one starts from."

- T. S. Eliot



When you are starting out and looking to buy your first home, you need an attorney who can guide you through the maze of real estate law.

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### Attorney Scott M. Hibbert

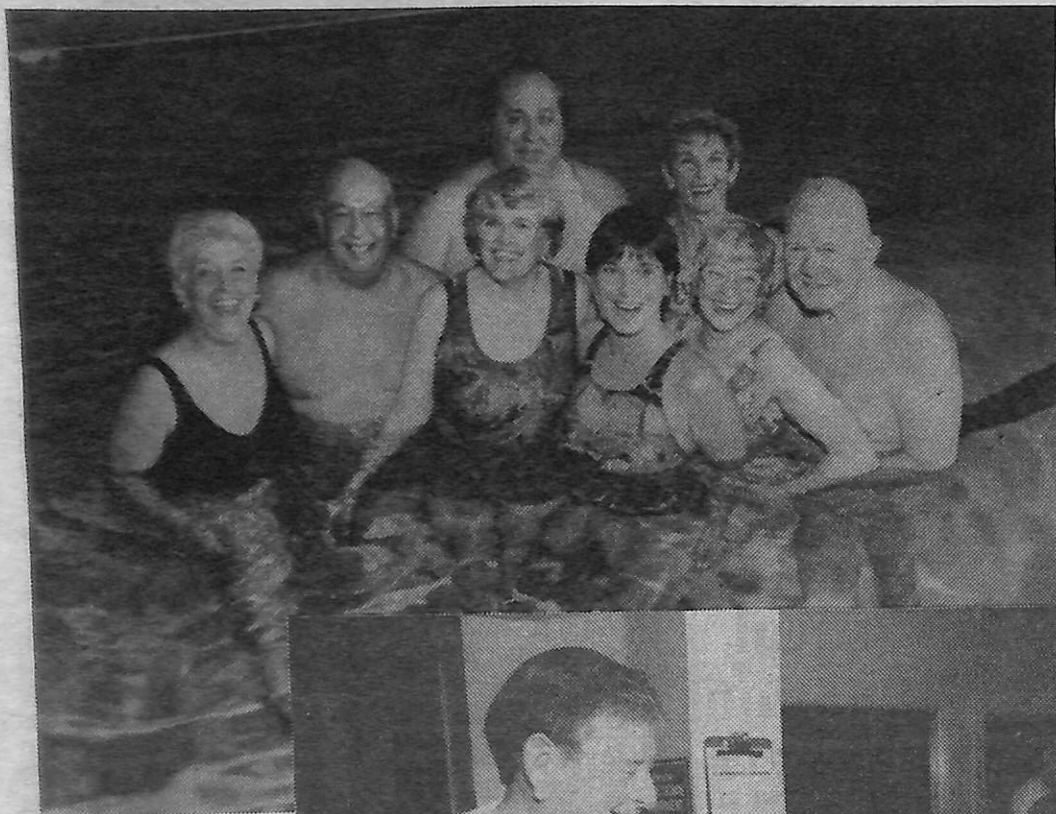
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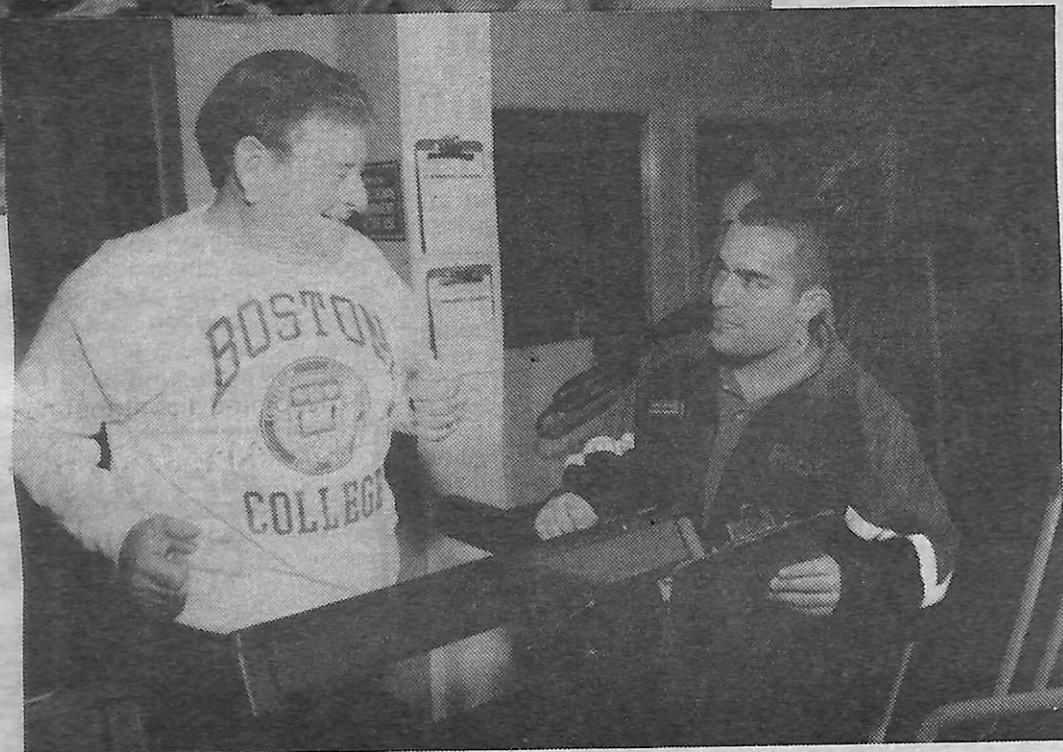
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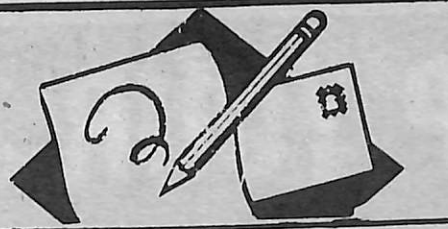
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## Letters To The Editor

### It's Time For Berkshire Power To 'Pay The Rent' In Agawam

#### To The Editor:

It's not easy to admit this, but whether we like it or not, Agawam is now home to a gas- and oil-fired power plant. The chances of stopping it now are unrealistic.

With that knowledge, we must all work together on the future of our community, trusting that promises made by this developer will be kept.

Therefore, I hope that no one will ever have to report broken promises made by Berkshire Power. I, for one, will not shy from that responsibility.

Their intimidation didn't stop me; their settlement offers didn't buy me; and their still-pending SLAPP suit doesn't scare me.

The following is a partial list of items that Berkshire Power Development Corporation either expressed or implied promises about:

- Water pressure.
- Electric rates.
- Ball fields.
- Evacuation plan.
- Clean air.
- Fogging.
- "Maximum" annual 30-day oil burn.
- Safety.
- Property values.
- Plume height.
- Noise.
- Fire Department upgrade.
- Icing.

The above list is by no means all-inclusive, but is used for presentation purposes to remind TOWN OFFICIALS OF AGAWAM AND BERKSHIRE POWER about guarantees that were made by them during the permitting process.

All citizens of Agawam should acknowledge that they will be extremely upset with any town official, elected or otherwise, that looks the other way on any of these matters. A promise made is a promise that should be kept.

Berkshire Power bought a home in Agawam; now it's time for them to pay the rent. If everything they said turns out to be THE TRUTH, I will be a good neighbor to Berkshire Power.

Mike DeNegro  
Agawam

### Town Merchants Help With Holiday Ornament Sale

#### To The Editor:

The Agawam Junior Women's Club would like to express their appreciation to the following Agawam businesses for helping out during our annual Holiday Ornament Sale:

Feeding Hills Public Market, Agawam Public Market, The Corner Deli, and Surprise! Card & Gift Shop.

Thank you again for your continued help and support throughout the years.

Pam Quirk & Betty Vershon  
Co-Chairpersons, Holiday Ornament Sale  
Agawam Junior Women's Club

### Local Businesses Applauded By Jr. Women's Club

#### To The Editor:

The Agawam Junior Women's Club wishes to thank the following businesses for their contribution towards the Christmas Holiday Baskets and gifts that were delivered to families in Agawam:

Lego Systems, Inc., Milton Bradley, Forastiere Funeral Home, Stepanik Farms, Cecchi Farm, Sarat Ford, The Rollaway, Coldwell Banker Molta, Cincotta Farms, Fitness First, Sandcastle Daycare, Olympic Fastener, Feeding Hills Market, Agawam Public Market, Corner Deli, Waniewski Farms, Westfield Savings Bank, Fleet Bank, Ayer Realty, Medical West, Western Massachusetts Electric Company, Balzer Tool Coating, Toys for Tots - United Way, and Stop & Shop.

Also, we wish to show our appreciation to the following clubs, churches, schools, and residents for their support and food contributions:

Agawam Congregational Missionary Committee, First Baptist Women's Fellowship, Valley Community Church, Granger School ADELPHI, Clark School ADELPHI, Middle School ADELPHI, Agawam Junior High School ADELPHI, Agawam High School Health Class Period 7, James Clark School, Early Childhood Center, Firemen's Local 1973, Jeanne Zucco, Mr. & Mrs. Briggs, Irene Thomas, Phyllis Weinle, Lucy & Frank Cardaropoli, Pioneer Valley Girl Scouts, Agawam Senior Center, Agawam Chamber of Commerce, Agawam Library, and the Agawam Town Hall.

THANK YOU FROM THE MEMBERS OF  
THE AGAWAM JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB

### Agawam Historical Assoc. Seeks Donations

Despite Agawam's rich and varied history, there has never been a museum in town to house and protect its historical treasures. Many Agawam families have held historic artifacts for generations waiting for such a time.

With the opening of the new Fire Department Headquarters on Main Street, the old fire house on Elm Street has been secured for use as a town historical museum. After serving the town since 1918, the building must be renovated and adapted to its new use.

The Agawam Historical Association is making great progress in its efforts to transform the Elm Street Fire Station into the Agawam Historical & Fire House Museum, but it needs your help! Please consider membership in the association, a direct donation, or donation of in-kind service.

The Historical Association is also accepting donations of artifacts for cataloging and storage. If you have a piece of Agawam's history which you would like to donate to the Museum, please contact Historical Association Archivist Ann Bradford at 786-6835.

Join the Agawam Historical Association or send in your donation today! Please mail it to the Agawam Historical Association, P.O. Box 552, Agawam, MA 01001.

Thank you for your support!

*For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classified ads*

### Fuel Assistance Info & Applications At Agawam Senior Center

Information and applications are available at the Agawam Senior Center for those individuals qualifying for fuel assistance. Please look at the income guidelines to determine if you may be eligible.

Household size:

1 - Income under \$13,808 (eligible).

2 - Income under \$18,568 (eligible).

Appointments will be made on Wednesday mornings in January and February from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Remember, when you come in for your appointment, **you must bring...**

1. Proof of your household income, a copy of Social Security, SSI, pensions, and retirement checks.

2. A copy of your latest heating bill (*make sure it has your name and address on it*).

3. A current I.D., Social Security card, birth certificate, or your current driver's license.

#### GOOD NEWS!!!

The Senior Pharmacy Program will continue through 1998!

Call the Senior Center and make an appointment with Trudy, our SHINE representative, for more information about your eligibility. Trudy is in the Agawam Senior Center on the first and third Tuesday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to answer your questions.

#### BERKSHIRE POWER - from Page 2...

As a gesture of the company's commitment to community projects, company representative Joann McGeoghan said the company has distributed the first in a series of quarterly donations of \$5,000 to various local groups. Included in the list of Tuesday's recipients were the Agawam Historical and Fire Museum, the AHS Varsity Cheerleaders, the Park and Rec department, a metro summer softball league, and an epilepsy awareness dinner.

"This is the start of many more donations," Mrs. McGeoghan said. "We've said from day one that we're going to be a part of the community. We've always said we'll be a good neighbor and we have been."

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By  
**COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME**

Monday, February 2nd  
"Pizza Party" for Agawam Lioness Club  
At Maria's on Silver Street  
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4th  
Free Valentine flower arranging demonstration  
At Agawam Senior Center conference room  
10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Friday, February 6th  
"First Friday" series presents a slide show presentation by Henry Lafleur on the "Appalachian Trail" (a hiking journey)  
At the Agawam Public Library, Cooper Street  
7:30 p.m.  
(Admission is free)

Saturday, February 7th  
Dance sponsored by AHS Wrestling Booster Club  
At Polish American Club, 139 Southwick Street  
7:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.  
Tickets: \$7

Monday, February 9th  
Catholic Women's Club of Agawam  
At Parish Center, St. John's Church  
7:30 p.m.

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## "A Piece Of The News"

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

From Tuesday night's School Committee meeting...

### HONORS PROGRAM RETURNING TO AHS?

An ad hoc sub-committee of the School Committee was appointed to investigate the possibility of bringing an honors program back to the High School.

School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson designated School Committee members Louis Massola, Jr., Linda Galarneau, and Teresa Kozloski as the committee's representatives to an ad hoc committee charged with looking into whether the School Department will reinstate an honors program for high school students.

At Tuesday night's School Committee meeting, School Superintendent Frank Ameruso requested the assistance of an ad hoc committee to work with administrators and academic coordinators to determine if an honors program should be returned to the High School.

The sub-committee will meet with the superintendent and the academic coordinators on Tuesday, February 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. in the superintendent's conference room at the Junior High School.

Although the public is invited to attend the meeting, there is no provision for public participation in a meeting of a sub-committee of the School Committee.

Ameruso said the honors program was dropped from the high school when heterogeneous grouping of classes (grouping students of all ability levels) was approved by the School Committee in the wake of the Ed Reform Act of 1993. However, Ameruso said he has discovered that the Ed Reform law, which encourages heterogeneous classes, does not outlaw honors classes.

"Heterogeneous grouping allows for equal educational opportunity for all students; special education allows for the education of disabled students, but without an honors program we're not allowing for the education of gifted students," Ameruso said. "That's a shame, in my opinion."

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE INVITED TO ROBINSON

Accompanied by fourth grade teacher Andrew Bower, students Joseph Root and Zachary Bruno invited School Committee members to come to Robinson Park School to read to a classroom as part of the school's 15th annual celebration of Read Aloud month.

The boys explained that the school has been sponsoring the program to encourage parents and family members to read aloud to children as a way to engender a love of reading in youngsters. According to the two fourth graders, data shows that the more children are read to on a daily basis, the more they will love reading on their own.

School Committee members were asked to call the school to sign up to read to a classroom of eager young listeners. For each book that is read aloud to them at home or at school, the children receive a book voucher to be displayed on the wall of the school's cafeteria.

### FEBRUARY 10TH AGENDA

Items appearing on the School Committee's February 10th agenda include adoption of math textbooks for students in grades K-5 and a change in the School Department's policy for assigning students to elementary schools.

Current School Department policy recognizes three exceptions to the neighborhood school concept which assigns students to an elementary school based on where students live.

Presently, students may be transferred from one elementary school to another to keep class size from becoming too large; students who are repeating a grade may be transferred to another school; and a student who changes residence to another district during the school year may be allowed to complete the year at their present school (if parents agree to provide transportation).

The proposed new policy incorporates these three exceptions and adds another. Under the proposed policy, students may attend an elementary school outside their neighborhood at the sole discretion of the superintendent. The reason for the reassignment must be compelling and discussed on an individual basis with the superintendent (with notification to the School Committee).

**JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. 789-0053.**

## Hearing Held On Special Ed Law

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian announced the Massachusetts Legislature's Joint Committee on Education held a hearing on Tuesday, January 20th to listen to testimony on legislation to reform the state's Special Education law.

"I believe the hearing was a positive and productive first step in the process to reform special education in Massachusetts," Melconian said.

The hearing featured testimony from advocates in favor and opposed to legislation filed by Rep. Lida Harkins. Harkins, who chaired a Special Education Study Commission, calls for changing the state's "maximum feasible" benefits to the federal standard of "free and appropriate" education. Her legislation also would allocate \$15 million in additional state funding for special education in the FY '99 state budget.

I realize that there are many questions that still have to be addressed by the Committee and each legislative branch," Melconian said. "This is by no means a finished product. There are tough

questions that must be addressed."

Parents of special education students expressed concern over the funding formula and the transfer of burden from the school districts to the state. They also wished to preserve the practice of having the school district pay for a second independent evaluation. The legislation before the Education committee would allow the school district to argue before an appeals board over the need for a second opinion.

Melconian is aware of the concerns of advocates and parents but is confident an acceptable and appropriate resolution can be reached. "There is little debate over the need for reform. Massachusetts needs to come up with a funding formula that will assure that school districts receive the necessary monies to conduct successful special education programs," Melconian said.

"I look forward to continuing the debate over the next several months in order to pass a law that will accomplish all of our educational objectives."

## SCOTT'S ONE-STOP NOW TWO LOCATIONS

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## Regular Council Mtg. Agenda For Mon., February 2nd

1. Citizen's Speak Time.
2. Roll Call.
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 1/20/98.
5. Declaration from Council President.
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances.

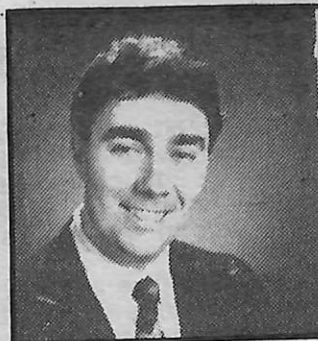
### (a) Resolutions.

1. TR-98-1-A Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of James L. Harkins to the Agawam Housing Authority (Mayor).
2. TR-98-2-A Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of Gary P. Shannon of Feeding Hills, MA to the Agawam Municipal Golf Commission for a Three Year Term Expiring December 31, 2000 (Mayor).
3. TR-98-3-A Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of Daniel C. Yorke of Feeding Hills, MA to the Agawam Municipal Golf Commission for a Three Year Term Expiring December 31, 2000 (Mayor).
4. TR-98-4-A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Security and Maintenance Addendum to the Memorandum Agreement for the Connecticut River Walk and Bikeway Committee (Mayor).
7. Report of Council Committees.  
None.
8. Elections.  
None.
9. Public Hearings.

### (a)

1. PH-97-20-(TOR-97-13)-An Ordinance to Amend Ch. 180 of the Code of the Town of Agawam by adding Art. XIV entitled Personal Wireless Services Facilities, Towers & Repeaters (Continue Public Hearing from 1/20/98).
10. Old Business.
- (a)
  1. TOR-98-1-An Ordinance to Amend Section 49-7(8) of the Code of the Town of Agawam to Create the Position of Personnel Assistant (Mayor)(1st Reading).
  2. TO-98-1-Voucher List (\$34.15).
  3. TO-98-2-Transfer-\$21,175.00 from Reserve Fund (16605-57300) to Employee Benefit Buyback (16603-51040)(Mayor).
  4. TO-98-3-Transfer-\$50,000.00 from Agawam Municipal Golf Course Revenue Surplus (65200-31510) to Reserve Fund (16605-57300)(Mayor).
  5. TO-98-4-An Order Referring a Project in the Town of Agawam to the Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (Mayor).
  6. TO-98-5-Application for License for one (1) automatic amusement device for Luigi's Pizza-n-Pasta - 7 So. End Bridge Circle.
  7. TO-98-6-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for Spfld. Turnverein - 176 Garden St., Aga., MA.
  8. TO-98-7-Application for License for four (4) automatic amusement devices for T.J. Sporthouse - 1664 Main St., Aga., MA.
11. New Business.

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we would appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!*



## View From The State House

by State Rep.  
Daniel F. Keenan

## 1997 Year End Review: Part IV

### Checks & Balances Of The Legislative Process

Every session, thousands of bills are introduced to the Legislature, and of all the proposed legislation, only a small percentage make it to the Governor's desk and are signed into law. Based on my experience, the bills that progress through the legislative process all have one thing in common; the support of Massachusetts residents.

The legislative process does work. The process is driven by the public with a series of checks and balances in place to ensure the integrity of a bill. However, the ultimate checks and balances are the residents of the Commonwealth.

In 1997, legislation was introduced and driven by Massachusetts residents. The following are examples of such pieces of legislation that progressed through the legislative cycle and were either signed into law, stalled along the way, or awaiting further action:

• **Health Access Expansions:** Legislation was enacted to increase eligibility and benefits for three major healthcare programs for low and moderate income children and senior citizens of Massachusetts. As a result, every uninsured child in Massachusetts will be eligible for some form of health coverage. The bill also increases benefits for up to 40,000 seniors eligible for prescriptive drug assistance through the Senior Pharmacy

Program, and improves benefits provided by the Children's Medical Security Plan.

• **Child Pornography Laws:** This legislative session saw a strengthening of child pornography laws, providing additional protection to children of the Commonwealth. The legislation criminalizes the possession and knowing purchase of child pornography.

• **Abolishment of Counties in Massachusetts:** This law abolished Middlesex County effective June 30, 1997, and Hampden and Worcester Counties effective July 1, 1998. All county assets are transferred to the state. The state also assumes all liabilities of each county including defaulted loans and vendor payments.

• **DNA Sampling and Database Legislation:** This legislation requires those convicted of sex offenses and other crimes, such as murder and armed robbery, to submit samples of their DNA for inclusion in a statewide database. The law creates a state DNA database and requires participation in the federal CODIS DNA database run by the FBI. Prior to the passage of this bill, Massachusetts was one of only three states which did not require sex offenders to register with a DNA database. This database will serve as an invaluable tool to identify and convict repeat offenders and also speed up investigations by quickly excluding certain suspects. The impact of this database in some areas could be as dramatic as fingerprinting criminals.

• **Casino Gambling Proposals:** After exhaustive committee hearings and the preparation of a comprehensive report on the social and economic costs and questions raised by Native American and racetrack casinos, the House overwhelmingly rejected the proposal.

• **The Courthouse Bond Bill:** The Courthouse Bond Bill is presently before us for consideration of a proposed gubernatorial amendment regarding project labor agreements, minority and women hiring goals, and no-strike language provisions.

Legislative proposals will continue to move through the legislative process in 1998. Whether legislation makes it all the way to the Governor's desk depends upon the residents of the Commonwealth. You make the difference.

## Agawam Police Department's Arrest Blotter For January 20th-26th

On January 20, 1998, **Douglas E. Sharpe** of 5 Kimberly Dr., Southwick was arrested and charged with speeding, failure to stay within marked lanes, failure to stop for a police officer and operating a motor vehicle so as to endanger. Arresting officer was Mark Poggi.

On January 20, 1998, **Joshua R. Miner** of 51 Hope Farms Dr., Feeding Hills was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery. Arresting officer was Keith Bopko.

On January 22, 1998, **Cheryl A. Epps** of 20 King Ave., Agawam was arrested and charged with an outstanding warrant. Arresting officer was Ronald J. Brown.

On January 22, 1998, **Keith Hannan** 25 Highland Ave., Agawam was arrested and charged with domestic assault & battery and an outstanding warrant. Arresting officer was Gerald O'Keefe.

On January 22, 1998, **Fernando Torres** of 54 Cleveland St., Feeding Hills was arrested and charged with shoplifting. Arresting officer was Robert Marsh.

On January 24, 1998, **Patrick M. Mahon, Jr.** of 11 Debra St. Enfield, CT was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol 4th offense, speeding, failure to stop for a police officer, failure to stop for a red lens, passing violation, failure to stay within marked lanes, and two

outstanding warrants. Arresting officer was Steven Grasso.

On January 26, 1998, **Frederick E. Seymour** of 14 Popular St., Windsor Locks, CT was arrested and charged with possession of a class "C" substance, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, operating without a valid license, and speeding. Arresting officer was Steven Grasso.

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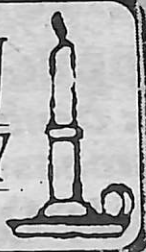
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## Robert A. Magovern Elected To Convention Credentials Committee

The Massachusetts Republican Party State Committee met this week in Westboro, MA, to plan for the Republican State Convention to be held in Worcester on April 18th.

The influential Convention Credentials Committee was elected by the various State Committee members. Robert A. Magovern of Agawam was elected as one of the members of the committee.

In last fall's town election, Magovern was elected to the Agawam City Council and, earlier this month, was chosen to serve as its Vice-President. When asked about his new position on the State Committee and how it is chosen, he said, "The Credentials Committee is made up of five elected members of the State Committee and two appointed members, one each by Governor Paul Celluci and Treasurer Joseph Malone. The convention process is very important for both the Democratic and the Republican parties."

Magovern continued, "The Credentials Committee is the group that rules over the selection of delegates to make sure that the rules of the party are followed. If for some reason an individual delegate or entire delegation is challenged, it is up to the Credentials Committee to rule on the validity of the member's (or members') right to vote at the convention."

Magovern went on to state his opinion on the importance of the selection process: "No matter what your political persuasion is, it is important to be aware of what is happening within your political party. The statewide convention is a wonderful experience for anyone who has an interest in good government."

Magovern, who became active in Agawam politics because he felt he could make a positive contribution, encouraged anyone interested in attending the Republican Convention to contact



ROBERT A. MAGOVERN

him about how to submit their name as a delegate. He also encouraged any Democrat to contact the head of their Democratic Town Committee to find out how to attend their convention to be held in June.

"I firmly believe that in order to have a strong society, we need good government; that means a strong, two-party system. The only way we will maintain a strong political system is if people get involved," stated Magovern.

"Nothing is more important than selecting the best from both parties to run for Governor. You have a chance to help select your party's candidate by attending your State Convention," concluded Magovern.

## Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas  
Veterans' Agent

### Changes In V.A. Health Care

Many veterans are aware of the newly implemented V.A. Health Care System known as VISN-1. Yet, those who have never utilized the V.A. medical facilities (or have not used them in a long time), may find the following excerpt from a monthly bulletin that I subscribe to, very interesting.

These are changes and procedures that apply to all veterans:

#### V.A. HEALTH CARE ENROLLMENT

V.A. health care enrollment? It's a new system providing access for veterans to a comprehensive package of U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs health care services. And, it's easy to use!

Just answer a few questions and you will be assigned by V.A. to one of the newly-established priority groups. V.A. will then send a letter confirming your enrollment and assignment. That's it!

#### Am I required to be enrolled?

You must be enrolled to receive health care after October 1998, unless you are in one of the following categories:

- You are rated by the V.A. as having a service-connected disability of 50 percent or more.
- It has been less than one year since you were discharged from military service for a compensable disability that the military determined was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, and which has not yet been rated by V.A.
- You are seeking care from V.A. only for a service-connected disability.

V.A. encourages veterans in the above categories to also apply for enrollment so they can better plan for your health care needs.

#### How do I apply for enrollment?

Starting in October 1997, all veterans may apply by contacting the nearest V.A. health care facility. If you have received V.A. health care services after October 1, 1996, you do not need to apply.

SEE VETERANS -  
Page 8...

For all the hometown news, you turn our  
pages every week ... ADVERTISER NEWS



## Alexander's Restaurant & Banquet

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Coupon

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**Save \$5.00**

With This Coupon

**On Dinner For 2 Totaling \$20.00 Or More**

This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid by bearer.



## FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano  
Awareness Is The Key  
To Fire Prevention

Fire is a powerful and destructive force that most of us don't understand, but think we can survive. Home fires have become the second leading cause of accidental death, but there is a lot you can do to prevent and survive a fire in your home.

The key to fire prevention is awareness — by knowing how home fires start, and what you can do to eliminate them. The lead cause of death from home fires is carelessness while smoking.

If you are drowsy, taking strong medication, or consuming alcohol, postpone that cigarette until you're more alert. Use large metal or glass ashtrays, and make sure all smoking materials are extinguished before disposing of them.

Heating is the number one cause of home fires and second in fire deaths. Before the heating season starts, have your furnace checked by a professional to insure that it is operating safely. Make sure air filters are changed regularly and that combustible materials aren't stored in the furnace area.

If you use a solid fuel appliance, such as wood or coal, also have it inspected by a professional, and include cleaning and inspection of the chimney. Other portable heaters, like kerosene or electric space heaters, need care as well. Follow the manufacturers' recommendations for cleaning and operation.

\*\*\*

Another important area is the kitchen. Cooking is the third largest cause of fire deaths in the home, and is probably one of the least reported fires. To keep cooking from being a hazard is to keep on eye on it.

Many fires start when cooking is unattended while you're on the phone, watching television, or visiting with a friend. If you're cooking, stay in the kitchen; if you're called away, turn off all burners.

If you do have a fire in a pan on the stove, put a lid on it, turn off the heat, and let the pot cool. If the fire is in the oven or broiler, close the door and turn off the heat.

Wait a few minutes before opening the door to make sure the fire is out. Also keep an ABC/multi-purpose extinguisher handy and learn how to use it.

Another major cause of home fires is defective appliances and overloaded circuits. When purchasing appliances, look for the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) label. Periodically check power cords for fraying, and replace if damaged.

If you use extension cords, make sure they are not run under carpets or over nails. Remember, extension cords should only be used temporarily.

If you have problems with fuses or circuit breakers, it could be a sign that you have wiring problems. Have them checked by a qualified electrician.

Protect your home from fire by becoming aware of the high-hazard areas. The Agawam Fire Department has more information on home fire safety. Contact them today at 786-2662.

## LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM  
NOTICE!!!

You are hereby notified that a public hearing will be held at Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, in the Town of Agawam, Massachusetts, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., on Tuesday, February 17, 1998 upon petition of Bell Atlantic and Western Mass. Electric Company dated December 12, 1997 for permission to install joint pole approximately 65' Westerly of existing pole no. 6 in ways or parts of ways designated in said petition, along which designated route of line you are an owner of real estate as determined by the last preceding assessment for taxation.

Dated this 21st day of January, 1998.

Information regarding this petition may be obtained from Western Mass. Electric Company in Springfield, Tel. No. 787-9460.

PETITION No. DRG. 1354 STREET: Valley Street  
Ursula Retzler  
Clerk of the Council

Published: January 29, 1998

## LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM  
PUBLIC HEARING

The Agawam Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 17, 1998 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA on a Class II Dealer License for Route 147 Auto, Inc., 704A Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

Ursula Retzler  
Clerk of the Council

Published: January 29, 1998

## Applications Are Available For Senior Pharmacy Program

The Senior Pharmacy Program continues in 1998. The Senior Pharmacy Program is a new pharmacy assistance program for elder residents in Massachusetts enacted under the Improved Access to Health Care Act.

It was established by the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) in 1997 and is administered by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs in cooperation with DMA. Funding for this \$30 million program comes from cigarette tax revenues.

Through the Senior Pharmacy Program, eligible elder residents may receive up to \$750 per year to help them pay for prescription drugs in all Therapeutic Classes except those excluded from MassHealth. Insulin and disposable syringes with needles are also included in the SPP benefit.

To be eligible for this program, individuals must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a resident of Massachusetts for the past six months
- Must be age 65 or over
- Cannot be enrolled in the Medicaid Program
- Cannot have drug coverage from a supplemental insurance policy, HMO plan, or any other third party payor
- Must have a gross annual income no greater than \$11,844 per year (couples apply individually).

The annual enrollment fee of \$15 is deducted from the benefit. Copayment amounts at the time of prescription purchases are \$3 for generic drugs and certain medical supplies, and \$10 for brand name drugs and certain medical supplies.

Applications are available at the Agawam Senior Center. Those who need help or have questions concerning an application may call the Senior Center to set up an appointment with Trudy, the SHINE representative.

For more information, call the Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

## Agawam Democratic Committee Slates Delegate Caucus

The Agawam Democratic Committee will hold its caucus to elect delegates to the 1998 Massachusetts Democratic Convention.

Registered Democrats wishing to run must be at the Agawam Police Station Community Room, Saturday, February 7th at 2:00 p.m.

Registration will be closed at 2:15 p.m. Fourteen delegates (seven women and seven men) and four alternates (two women and two men) will be elected.

Best local news...

## VETERANS - from Page 7...

In this case, V.A. will process an application on your behalf. When enrollment is confirmed, V.A. will notify you in writing. You can apply for enrollment any time during the year.

### How long will I remain enrolled?

You will remain enrolled for one year. Your enrollment will be reviewed and renewed each year, depending upon your priority group and available resources.

If V.A. cannot renew your enrollment for another year, you will be notified in writing 60 days before your enrollment expires.

### PRIORITY GROUPS

#### Priority Group 1

- Veterans with service-connected conditions rated 50 percent or more disabling.

#### Priority Group 2

- Veterans with service-connected conditions rated 30 or 40 percent disabling.

#### Priority Group 3

- Veterans who are former POW's.
- Veterans with service-connected conditions rated 10 or 20 percent disabling.
- Veterans discharged from active duty for compensable conditions.
- Veterans awarded special eligibility classification (38 USC, Section 1151).

#### Priority Group 4

- Veterans who are receiving aid and attendance or housebound benefits.
- Veterans who have been determined by V.A. to be catastrophically disabled.

#### Priority Group 5

- Nonservice-connected veterans and service-connected veterans rated zero percent disabled, whose income and net worth are below the established dollar threshold.

#### Priority Group 6

- All other eligible veterans who are not required to make copayments for their care, including:

- World War I and Mexican Border War veterans.
- Veterans receiving care for exposure to toxic substances or environmental hazards while in service.
- Compensable zero percent service-connected.

#### Priority Group 7

- Nonservice-connected veterans and non-compensable zero percent service-connected veterans with income and net worth above the statutory threshold and who agree to pay specified copayments.

The term service-connected refers to a V.A. decision that your illness or injury was incurred in or aggravated by military service.

For more information, contact your nearest V.A. health care facility at 1-800-949-1004.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Persian Gulf War veterans may apply for benefits through the V.A. for health care. In addition, they are eligible to file for Chapter 115 benefits if war-time service is established and they meet the income eligibility requirement.

If you have any questions regarding any of the aforementioned information, call the office of Veterans' Services at Agawam Town Hall — 786-0400, ext. 236/237.

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## — Agawam Obituaries —

### Florence E. Goff

Florence E. (Gillett) Goff, 82, of 117 Cardinal Drive, Agawam, died in Noble Hospital, Westfield. She was a secretary for the W.C. Vaill Dairy in East Providence, Rhode Island.

Born in East Providence, she lived in Springfield for 43 years before moving to Westfield for six years. She moved to Agawam recently.

She attended the Watchogue Congregational Church in East Forest Park, Springfield, and was in its Women's Club. She also belonged to the Anawan Grange in Rehoboth, and the Goff Gathering Association.

She leaves her husband of 58 years, Maurice A. Goff, Jr.; two sons, Kenneth A. of Marshfield and Bradford M. of Dallas, Texas; a daughter, Barbara S. Pallotta of Westfield; three brothers, Frederick, Albert, and Frank Gillett of East Providence; a sister, Edna Dagenais of East Providence; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held in the Rehoboth Congregational Church, with the burial in Rehoboth Village Cemetery. Firtion-Adams Funeral Service was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Westhills Hospice, 77 Mill Street, Westfield, MA 01085, or the Bronson Rehabilitation Unit, Noble Hospital, 115 East Silver Street, Westfield, MA 01085.

### Albert J. Gentile

Albert J. Gentile, 76, of West Springfield died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was the owner of Claridon Autos in West Springfield until retiring in 1984. He later worked at Mike Gentile's Auto Sales with his nephew and brother until 1994.

Born and educated in Springfield, he lived in West Springfield for the past 50 years. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

He was a 10-year veteran of the Tekoa Country Club in Westfield and most recently St. Anne's Country Club in Agawam.

He leaves his wife, the former Mary Gorgos; two daughters, Iris Copson of Feeding Hills and Donna Anton of Agawam; two sisters, Filomena

LaFlamme and Felicity Foster, both of Springfield; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Forastiere Funeral Home, with a Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. Burial was in St. Michael's Cemetery, all in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

### Elizabeth M. Carroll

Elizabeth M. (Gelgut) Carroll, 34, of 30 Moseley Avenue, Westfield, died at home.

She worked at the Heritage Hall Nursing Home in Agawam.

Born in Westfield, she was a former long-time resident of Agawam, and was graduated from Agawam High School in 1981.

She moved to Westfield eight years ago, and attended the Valley Community Church in Feeding Hills.

She leaves her husband, Stephen L. Carroll; her parents, George and Elizabeth (Fischer) Kopy of Feeding Hills; two brothers, David Kopy and Jay R. Kopy of Agawam; four sisters, Katheryn Laro of East Otis, Tammy Fontaine of West Springfield, and Laura Gelgut and Nena Kopy of Agawam.

The funeral was held at the church, with the burial at the convenience of the family. Westfield Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Center of Hope, Court Street, Westfield, MA 01085.

### Edna Landers

Edna (Belanger) Landers, 80, of New Port Richey, Florida, died at her home in Florida.

Born in Springfield, she has lived in Florida for 23 years. Previously she had lived in Agawam and Windsor Locks, CT.

She belonged to the Corona Chapter No. 205 Eastern Star in East Longmeadow and the Beacon Hill Women's Club in New Port Richey.

She was a descendant of Gov. William Bradford of Plymouth Colony.

She was predeceased by a son, Richard

Landers, in December.

She leaves a son, Robert Landers of Feeding Hills; three daughters, Jane Mortenson of Crystal River, Florida, Dorothy Holcomb of West Suffield, CT, and Beverly Landers of Windsor Locks; two brothers, George and Donald Belanger of North Adams; 13 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, followed by burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 9A, West Springfield, MA 01089.

### Harold E. Sibley

Harold E. Sibley, 76, of 28 Nelson Street, West Springfield, died at home.

He was a gun designer for 20 years at the Springfield Armory, and was a research and development engineer at Smith & Wesson Corp. until his retirement in 1986.

Born in Springfield, he moved to West Springfield in 1945.

He was an Army lieutenant in World War II, and was a captain in the Army National Guard.

He was a member of the Elm-Belcher Masonic Lodge in Agawam, the Melha Temple, the Scottish Rite Bodies, the Westfield Sportsmen's Club, and the Southern Skirmishers Association. He also was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association, and belonged to the Reserve Officers Association.

He leaves his wife, the former Mary G. Simpson; a daughter, Carol Grady of West Springfield; and two grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with a spring burial in Paucatuck Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 10...

### Advice From The Mortgage Pros ...

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Bob Michel, Senior Vice President of Retail and Mortgage Lending, 27 years of banking experience.

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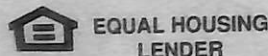
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## OBITUARIES - from Page 9...

**Elise M. Choquette**

Elise M. (Boulanger) Choquette, 88, formerly of 107 Fox Farm Road, Feeding Hills, died at a local nursing home.

She worked for Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. in St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

Born in Fitchburg and schooled in North Troy, Vermont, she moved to the Feeding Hills area in 1980.

Her husband, Charles A. Choquette, died in 1989.

She leaves a son, Albert of Colorado Springs, Colorado; a daughter, Rosemarie Marcotte of Feeding Hills; two sisters, Stella Phenix of Lake Worth, Florida, and Flore Gendron of North Troy; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and St. John the Evangelist Church, with the burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 61210, Longmeadow, MA 01106.

**Dona Velozo**

Dona (Martin) Velozo, 67, of 886 Main Street, Agawam, died at home.

She was a 20-year nurse's aide at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, and retired in 1994.

Born in Alliance, Ohio, she was a long-time resident of Agawam.

She leaves her husband, William Velozo; three sons, William Jr. of West Springfield, Joseph J. of Punta Gorda, Florida, and Gary L. of Springfield; a daughter, Sandra A. Velozo of Springfield; two sisters, Frances Curry of Earp, California, and Margaret Polera of San Diego, California; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with the burial at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pioneer Valley Visiting Nurse Association-Hospice, P.O. Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102-9058.

**Marion E. Howe**

Marion E. (Blake) Howe, 88, formerly of 121 Elm Street, Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She worked for four years at the Kidder Stacy

Co. during the 1950's.

Born in Maynard, she was raised in Williams-town and lived in Agawam since 1941.

She was a member of the Agawam Baptist Church and formerly served as a deacon. She was a member of the Over 60 Club and its Mr. & Mrs. Club.

Her husband, George L., died in 1983.

She leaves two sons, David R. of Russell and William B. of Suffield, CT; a sister, Martha Allen of Agawam; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Baptist Church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church's memorial fund, 760 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

**Peter L. Ronchi**

Peter L. Ronchi, 91, of 102 Maple Street, Agawam, died at Western Massachusetts Hospital in Westfield.

He worked as a toolmaker for Gilbert and Barker for more than 40 years. He later retired from General Electric in 1972.

Born in Voghera, Italy, he lived most of his life in Agawam.

He was an Army veteran who served in World War II. He was a communicant of St. Anthony's Church, and a member of the Victor Emmanuelle Club and the American Legion Post 478 in Agawam.

His wife, the former Rose D. Montagna, died in 1996.

He is survived by a son, Peter J. of Westfield, and two granddaughters, Christina and Marissa.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Thomas' Cemetery.

**Edward S. Bozek**

Edward S. Bozek, 64, of 105 Northwood Street, Feeding Hills, died at home.

He was a former employee of *The Wall Street Journal* in Chicopee.

Born in Chicopee, he was a graduate of that city's High School, and an Army veteran of the Korean War.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart

Church, and a 30-year Feeding Hills resident.

He leaves his wife, the former Ethel B. Lashway; two daughters, Judy B. Losito of Southwick and Donna Dubuc of Feeding Hills; two brothers, Frank of Chicopee and Fred of West Springfield; two sisters, Helen Parciak of Thompsonville, Enfield, CT, and Irene Murray of Chicopee; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

**Oscar J. Vincent**

Oscar J. Vincent, 87, of Agawam died in a local nursing home.

He was a 68-year employee of John R. Lyman Co. of Chicopee, and retired as plant manager.

Born in Canada, he lived in Springfield before becoming a long-time resident of Agawam.

He was a communicant of the Assumption Church.

He leaves his wife of 61 years, Yvonne (Le-moine) Vincent; a son, Gerard of Agawam; a daughter, Lorraine Boucher of Ludlow; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was private, and Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

**Michael J. O'Connell**

Michael J. O'Connell, 69, of 68 Royal Street, Agawam, died at home.

He was a 10-year employee of Maxol Products in West Springfield, and retired in 1993. He worked previously at Simon Container Co. in Agawam for 18 years.

He was born in New York City, and lived in Agawam most of his life.

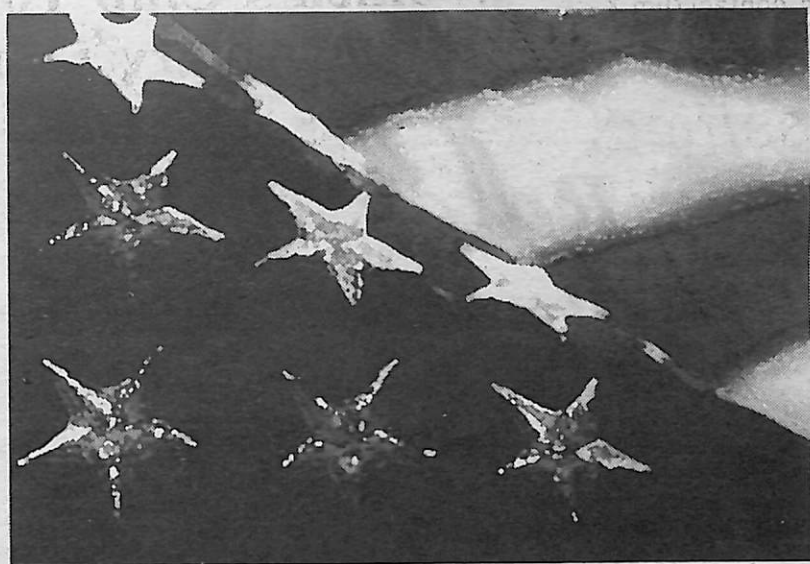
He was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua Church, and a long-time usher.

He belonged to the St. Anthony Tri-Parish Bowling league, and served in the Army during World War II.

He leaves his wife, Ann Marie M. (Barnes) O'Connell; two sons, Michael J. of Feeding Hills and John T. of Agawam; and nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with the burial at St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pioneer Valley Visiting Nurse Association-Hospice, 50 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01102.



## A new place of honor for our Veterans

Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam welcomes the development of the city's new Veteran's Cemetery. With construction underway, we're looking forward to opening ceremonies on Memorial Day, 2000. It's sure to be a day filled with deep joy, heartfelt emotion and great celebration!

As the funeral home located closest to the new cemetery, Colonial Forastiere fully supports this eternal tribute and honor to our Veterans.

And in special consideration of its opening, we will respectfully hold the cremains of Veterans in safe storage for any families who wish to have them laid to rest there.

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## Families

“B-I-N-G-O!!!!”



ACTIVITY DIRECTOR CATHY NEWMAN spins the bingo wheel during a recent game at Heritage Hall's North Building. Advertiser News photo by Jack Lussier.

### Free Valentine Flower Arranging Demo. At Agawam Senior Center

A free Valentine flower arranging demonstration will be held on Wednesday, February 4th, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Agawam Senior Center.

Table, as well as novelty and door arrangement techniques, will be presented by Elaine M. Smith. Elaine will also be designing for the entire Valentine's week at Country Flowers on Springfield Street.

### “Spfld. Camping & Outdoor Show” Is Coming To The Big E

Over 60 camping-related exhibitors from Massachusetts will be displaying the latest in recreational vehicles and camping equipment during the four-day Springfield Camping & Outdoor Show scheduled for President's Day weekend, February 13th-16th.

The show, which is held on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, is entering its 36th year, and features over 180 exhibitors from New England and beyond.

The dates and times for the show are Friday, February 13th, 4:00-9:00 p.m.; Saturday, February 14th, 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.; Sunday, February 15th, 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.; Monday, February 16th, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Local exhibitors include Backpacking Etc. and Campers Crusade for Muscular Dystrophy of Agawam and Beaver Camper Service of Feeding Hills.

Exhibits will include the latest in motor homes, conversion vans, trailers, tent trailers, tents and camping supplies, backpacking equipment, and services such as mobile recreational vehicles, vacation brokers, motorhome rentals, RV insurance and financing, camping clubs, and outdoor publications.

With nearly 30 RV dealers, the show provides a great opportunity to shop for the RV of your dreams, select a camping vacation or getaway weekend from over 95 campgrounds, or purchase those much-needed camping accessories before the season begins.

Additional attractions this year will include entertainment provided by the world famous Shriners Clowns, magic shows, animal shows, a family variety show, and others.

General admission is only \$5, with a discount coupon (\$6 without a coupon). Senior citizens and disabled American veterans pay only \$3 on any day. Children 12 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. Also, there is free parking for over 9,000 cars.

For further information, please contact Jim & Ellen Philpott, Publicity Committee (732-7652) or Jim & Debbie Roper, 1998 Chairmen (781-CAMP).

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### Valentine's Day Supper And Theatre Show At Valley Comm. Church

Valley Community Church has a night of great excitement planned for Valentine's Day. The evening starts with joining your friends and neighbors for “one of the best church suppers in town.”

The menu will consist of: baked chicken, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, two hot vegetables, tossed salad, olives, pickles, cranberry sauce, rolls with butter, and a beverage.

But it doesn't stop there. After eating all that, you still have to make your choice from the delectable, luscious, sure-fire fattening desserts.

Continuous servings are available from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The cost is just \$7 for adults, and \$3.50 for children.

We do suggest you make reservations by calling Dot at 786-6031, Shirley at 786-2576, or Jeff at 789-2552.

\*\*\*

After eating a leisurely supper, take a quick stroll over to the Red Door Theatre. There you can enjoy a night of entertainment and comedy, provided by Margie Secora and Lyle Pearsons.

“One Enchanted Evening” is filled with music and comedy that takes a slightly offbeat look at life, love, and fulfillment. Seating is cabaret style, complete with candlelit table, a silk rose, a chocolate heart, and non-alcoholic champagne.

The cost is only \$25 per couple, and reservations are a *must* by calling the theatre at 786-2026. Tickets are going very fast, so we suggest you call quickly.

(Note: “One Enchanted Evening” will be playing on both Friday, February 13th, and Saturday, February 14th, at 7:30 p.m.)

Valley Community Church and the Red Door Theatre are located “high on a hilltop” at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

### Spfld. Italian Women's Club To Meet February 17th

The February 17th meeting of the Springfield Italian Women's Club will be held at the Monte Carlo Restaurant, 1020 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield. Dinner will start promptly at 6:30 p.m.

The meetings are open to all women of Italian heritage (either born Italian or married to an Italian).

For more information, call (413) 782-0757 or (413) 781-1183.



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## Agawam Council On Aging's Highlights For February

### CHINESE NEW YEAR "YEAR OF THE TIGER"

**Tuesday, Feb. 3rd:** 9:00 a.m., SHINE rep; 12:00 noon, Monthly birthday; 12:30 p.m., Free weekly movie; 2:30 p.m., Chorus.

**Wednesday, Feb. 4th:** 8:30 a.m., Fuel assistance (weekly on Wednesday); 9:00 a.m., Tax assistance (weekly on Wednesday); 10:30 a.m., Reminiscence group.

**Thursday, Feb. 5th:** 9:30 a.m., Sweat-shirt design.

**Monday, Feb. 9th:** 9:30 a.m., Chocolate molding.

**Tuesday, Feb. 10th:** 12:15 p.m., "HIV & Seniors."

**Wednesday, Feb. 11th:** 10:00 a.m., SALT meeting; Flower demonstration with Elaine.

**Thursday, Feb. 12th:** 10:30 a.m., "Friends" fundraiser at Chez Josef with The Dan Kane Singers (\$30).

**Friday, Feb. 13th:** Valentine party (reservations required). No classes will be held on this day.

**Monday, Feb. 16th:** Holiday - Presidents' Day (no lunches); 1:00 p.m., Bingo.

**Wednesday, Feb. 18th:** Trip to Spfld. Monkeys hockey game (\$16).

**Monday, Feb. 23rd:** 1:00 p.m., AARP.

**Tuesday, Feb. 24th:** "Mardi Gras"; 4:00 p.m., COA meeting.

**Friday, Feb. 27th:** 12:30 p.m., Ballroom dancing.

## West Spfld./Agawam Open Pantry To Close Parent-Child Program

The West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry will be closing the doors of its Parent-Child Program permanently this Friday, January 30th.

The program ran successfully for six years with the mission of working to improve the quality of the relationship between parents and their children. It offered a nurturing, supportive setting for low-income parents of West Springfield, Agawam, Feeding Hills, and Southwick to come together weekday mornings to learn the necessary skills to become the best parents possible.

It also provided parents with other skills needed to become financially independent, including budgeting, computer literacy training, and resume writing.

Founders of the Program were Lillian Hillman and Nola Foley, who guided Parent-Child for the first two years of its operation until Open Pantry Assistant Director Pat Lyman took over leadership responsibilities for the last four years.

The closing of the Parent-Child Program is closely linked to the new welfare reform laws, which have forced parents out into the workforce or into intensive job training programs to prepare them for paid employment. With these changes, many low-income parents have been unable to attend the Parent-Child Program under its current model.

There are several new programs funded by the Department of Transitional Assistance (formerly the Department of Public Welfare) that provide better opportunities for parents to receive the services they need to move toward independence, better services than the Parent-Child Program was able to provide. This leaves our current program attendees in a comfortable position to transition from the services offered at Parent-Child into more suitable programming that will better meet their needs.

The West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry thanks the members of the community who have supported the Parent-Child Program since its inception six years ago, namely the West Springfield Parish Association, the Early Childhood Advisory Council, Mercy Hospital Healthcare for the Homeless, UMASS Extension Services, and many individuals, families, businesses, churches, and schools who have been there for us when we have been in need.

We would also like to thank the Town of West Springfield Board of Selectmen for voting to allocate Community Development Block Grant monies to the Parent-Child Program two years in a row, and to various Town Departments who sent representatives to speak at the Program on topics ranging from domestic violence (Community Police), to housing code enforcement (Buildings Department), to safe food handling (Health Department).

The Parent-Child Program was truly a community effort, and we are grateful to all that we could come together, collectively, to support and encourage parents to embrace their roles as primary caregivers of their children, and to move on to better opportunities for financial independence.

*Check our classified ads each and every week*

## STAGE III To Present Its Fourth Annual "Valentine's Cabaret"

STAGE III will present its fourth annual VALENTINE'S CABARET at the Red Door Theatre, 152 So. Westfield St., Feeding Hills on February 13th and 14th at 7:30 p.m.

"ONE ENCHANTED EVENING" is a fun-filled sentimental production featuring romantic music, comedy, and a one-act. The music is a collage of songs from Broadway, Pop and Country music centering on the Valentine theme of "love." The one-act, "THE BABIES" by Anna Lippman takes a slightly offbeat look at life, love, and fulfillment.

"ONE ENCHANTED EVENING" features award-winning actors/singers Lyle Pearsons of Suffield, CT and Margie Secora of Southwick and is a cabaret with all the trimmings.

Patrons are seated at candlelit tables complete with a complimentary bottle of non-alcoholic champagne, a chocolate heart, and even a silk rose. Refreshments may be purchased from the snackbar or patrons may bring their own basket of goodies. Tables are set for groups of two to eight. Tickets are \$25 per couple and reservations are a must.

Why not take your special someone to an evening not soon to be forgotten! For reservations, call 789-2026.

## "Valentine's Day Handbell Festival" Has Been Postponed

The West Springfield Parish Association's scheduled "Valentine's Day Handbell Festival" benefit for the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry on February 14th at First Congregational Church in West Springfield is being postponed due to sudden changes in the number of handbell ringers available that evening.

We are looking forward to it taking place after Easter with even more bell choirs participating. The new date will be announced shortly.

Tickets sold for the February event will be valid for the spring date.

## Homebuilders Of Agawam To Meet On Monday, February 2nd

The Homebuilders of Agawam, Inc. have scheduled a meeting for members interested in disbanding to be held Monday, Feb. 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at 850 Springfield St., Feeding Hills.

For more information, call 786-4304.

## Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, February 2nd:** Escarole soup, potato puffs, chicken cutlet on roll with lettuce and tomato, fresh pear.

**Tuesday, February 3rd:** Pork chops, mashed potatoes, peas and onions, whole wheat bread, cake.

**Wednesday, February 4th:** New dish — Sicilian meat roll, ziti with butter, tossed salad, rudi roll, chocolate pie.

**Thursday, February 5th:** Shake & Bake chicken leg, ranch mashed potatoes, green beans, rye bread, mixed fruit.

**Friday, February 6th:** Baked fish, scalloped potatoes, carrots and peas, whole wheat bread, jello with fruit.

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Additional Parking—  
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## Marc A. Callahan Fundraiser Slated For Sat., February 14th

The Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund will host its annual fundraising event, a formal, black-tie gala event to be held February 14th at the Ramada Sovereign Inn Hotel & Conference Center Grand Ballroom, 1080 Riverdale Rd., West Springfield.

The hotel offers a special rate of \$69 per double room, including breakfast for two. Reservations should be made immediately.

Once again, the sponsor will be X-Cellent Discount Wines and Liquors of Springfield and West Springfield. There will be a special art exhibit by Renee Rutana of the Indian Orchard Mills and Gallery and Studios. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund.

The evening will begin with an hors d'oeuvres and cocktail hour beginning at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m. During the cocktail hour, singer-songwriter Frankie Manzie will perform. The Fred Asatire Dance Studio of Springfield will honor us with special appearance by Daryll Carven and Gunnar Sverrisom. Also appearing, from the Arthur Murray Dancers, will be the Three Amigos: Harry Kozikowski, Corky Laduke, and Joe Pepin. After dinner, dance the night away with Flash Karaoke and D.J. Jason Vleta.

Dr. Anne Morris of the Infectious Disease Dept. at Baystate Medical Center will be honored for her long-standing commitment of caring for people with HIV/AIDS. Also being honored is Ms. Michelle Leonard, from Western Mass. AIDS Foundation, for her countless hours of volunteerism and dedication to the needs of people and families affected by HIV/AIDS.

Raffles and door prizes will abound! For the third consecutive year, Mr. Tux of Boston Road and West Springfield will provide tuxedos to anyone attending the event for a mere \$35.

Donations are \$35 per person. All proceeds benefit the VNA of Pioneer Valley, Inc. HIV/AIDS. Checks and contributions should be made payable to the "Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund."

For more information, call Raymond Miller at 732-4958 or 525-4238 or Faith Freeman at 594-5355.

## Agawam Golden Age Club's Chapter 1 Feb. Activities

**Friday, Feb. 6th:** Board of Directors' meeting at the Senior Center at 1:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 11th:** 1:30 p.m. meeting. Guest speaker will be Gail Noe, a SHINE counselor, to speak on the changes in the new Medicare regulations.

**Wednesday, Feb. 25th:** 1:30 p.m., meeting. Guest speaker will be Brian Lapis, Meteorologist from Channel 22.

\*\*\*

New members are always welcome to join. Helen Rogers, membership chairperson, is in charge of renewing members for 1998. She is also selling the Bargain Books that help you save when dining out or entertainment, etc.

## "Valentine Party" At Senior Center

Join us for the Agawam Council on Aging's annual "Valentine Party" to be held at the Agawam Senior Center on Friday, February 13th.

The menu will include cheese-stuffed chicken, twice-baked potatoes, baby Belgian carrots, and sweetheart cake.

Entertainment will be provided by "sweetheart" Linda King and the Golden Blue Ribbon Singers.

All classes at the Senior Center have been cancelled for this day.

Reservations are needed for the "Valentine Party"; call 786-0400, ext. 242.

*Remember, our deadline is each Tuesday at 12 noon - ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*

## Agawam Women's Club To Hold Attic Treasures & Craft Fair

An Attic Treasures And Craft Fair will be presented by the Agawam Women's Club on March 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Baptist Church on Main Street.

Vendors interested in renting a space, please call 786-3091 for further information.

A snack bar will be available for lunch as well as sweets, coffee, tea, and soda.

Come and enjoy part of your day with us, and help support our community projects such as the High School Scholarship Fund, Heritage Hall Nursing Home, Holyoke Soldiers' Home, and needy families in the area.

Meetings are held every fourth Monday, September through March, 7:30 p.m. in the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street.

Guests are always welcome.

## Boy Scout Troup 78 Will Be Sponsoring Valentine's Day Dance

Boy Scout Troop 78 will be sponsoring a Valentine's Day Dance for adults on Saturday, February 14th, at the Springfield Turnverein, 176 Garden Street, Agawam. It will be held from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight.

Music will be provided by DJ Billy Gino.

Tickets are \$5 per person and may be purchased at the door or by contacting Louise Pilegi at 786-0255.

*For all the local news, you turn our pages ... AAN!!!*

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J & B (1.75 Ltr.) <b>\$25.99</b>				
BEERS				
BBC Growlers (Half Gallon) <b>\$4.49</b> <b>2/\$7.99</b> Plus Deposit		J.W. Dundee Honey Brew (12 Pk.) <b>\$6.99</b> Plus Deposit		Pete's Winter Brew (12 Pk.) <b>\$8.99</b> Plus Deposit
Coors Extra Gold (30 Pk. Cans) <b>\$10.99</b> Plus Deposit				
		Coors And Coors Light (30 Pk. Cans) <b>\$14.99</b> Plus Deposit		
WINES				
Ernest & Julio Gallo Reserve White Zinfandel (1.5 Ltr.) <b>\$4.99</b>		Turning Leaf Chardonnay & Merlot (750 ml.) <b>\$5.99</b>	Rodney Strong Sonoma Cabernet & Chardonnay (750 ml.) <b>\$9.99</b>	Carlo Rossi (4 Ltr.) <b>\$6.99</b>

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Angela E. Coulopoulos &amp; Martino Santaniello Jr.

## Martino Santaniello Jr Is Engaged To Wed Angela E. Coulopoulos

Martino and Alba Santaniello of Agawam are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Martino Santaniello, Jr., to Angela Elaine Coulopoulos, daughter of Margaret Coulopoulos of Chicopee and the late Theodore Coulopoulos.

The bride-to-be graduated from the MacDuffie School in Springfield in 1993 and from American International College in 1997. She is currently employed as the Report Production Assistant at Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C. in West Hartford, Connecticut.

The future groom is a 1990 graduate of Agawam High School and a 1994 graduate of American International College. He is the Senior Accountant at Ebtac Corporation in Agawam.

An April 1998 wedding is planned.

## Tax Assistance On Wednesday Mornings At Senior Center

The Agawam Senior Center will offer tax assistance on Wednesday mornings from February 4th through April 15th from 9:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

To schedule an appointment, call the Center at 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

To make an appointment for information on fuel assistance, call the Agawam Senior Center. Appointments are available on Wednesdays through the end of February from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Call 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

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with us, each and every  
week ... Advertiser News!*

## Jr. Women's Club Members Attend Conference

The General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts and the Junior Federation of Women's Clubs held their Mid-Winter Conference on January 24th at Lombardo's in Randolph, Massachusetts.

Ten members from the Agawam Junior Women's Club were in attendance: Anne Woodard, president; Cindy Sanford Taylor, vice-president; Stephanie Bertagnolli, Donna Shibley, Eileen Hamre, Sue Hoague, Aileen Semanie, Eva Jack, Willma Gillan, and Rosalie Dialessi.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Angela G. Dorenkamp who spoke on "Images of Women," followed by a birthday celebration for Susan B. Anthony, who spearheaded the suffragist movement in 1820. It would have been her 178th birthday. And Mary Fasano, who at age 71 returned to high school, graduated, went on to college, and received a BS at the age of 89, was honored. In the afternoon, the guest speaker, Dr. Jessie Ann Owens, gave a daughter's perspective of her father's book, "The Black Mutiny," which inspired the movie, AMISTAD. The program finished with musical entertainment by Maria Ferrante, who sang several scores from famous operas.

Before the evening ended, the Agawam Junior Women's Club took home an award for "Most Creative" basket entitled "Touched by an Angel." Donna Shibley's son, Alex, entered two contests and received certificates and gifts for both entries.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and GFWC of Massachusetts.

## Agawam Golden Age Club's Chapter 2 Feb. Activities

**Feb. 4th:** Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m.  
Speaker - Gail Noe, SHINE program, "Medical Insurance."

**Feb. 18th:** Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m.  
Entertainment - "Two of Us" (15 year-old vocalists).

**Feb. 23rd:** Bus trip to Mohegan Sun.

**Feb. 27th:** Board meeting at 1:00 p.m.

The membership booklet updating is nearly complete. Members are asked to submit their current addresses to Rita Matys or Ed Grimes.

The 1998 membership dues are now payable to Ed Grimes.

**Best  
local  
news...  
AAN!!!**

## Valentine's Day Luncheon Show Slated At Chez Josef

Join the Agawam Friendly Travelers on Thursday, February 12th, for a unique Valentine's Day luncheon show The Don Who? Show and The Dan Kane Singers at Chez Josef, the elegant, award-winning banquet facility in Agawam.

Night club singer and comedian Don Who will headline this unique Valentine celebration. Don has been entertaining audiences for over 30 years throughout the United States and Canada and has released five albums. A headliner at the Indian Head Resort, this singer, impersonator, and comedian has become one of the top draws in New England.

Steve Davis, music critic of *Variety* magazine, wrote this about Don: "His vocal power and style are electrifying, his rapport with the audience is warm and sincere, his wit and humor made me laugh 'til it hurt. I'd say it's a must for everyone to see The Don Who? Show!"

The luncheon show at Chez Josef will open with The Dan Kane Singers, a talented group specializing in Broadway music, original shows, and concerts. Having entertained audiences all over western Massachusetts for the past 25 years, The Dan Kane Singers have developed a following. Come and hear what they're all about; they're real crowd-pleasers!

The luncheon menu will include an appetizer, salad, potato, vegetable, rolls and butter, dessert, coffee/tea (also decaf), and a glass of wine with dinner. The entree will be one of the following choices: roast beef au jus, stuffed filet of sole, or chicken a l'orange.

The cost is \$30 per person, with transportation "on your own." For reservations and/or more information, call Nellie Mathias at 786-9093.

## Agawam Lioness Club To Hold "Pizza Party" On Feb. 2nd

To the Agawam Lioness members — how about a "Pizza Party" on February 2nd at Maria's on Silver Street?

A pizza or mini-grinder, plus salad, coffee, and dessert, will be served at 7:00 p.m. District governor Hal Martin will give presentation on "Eye Research."

\* \* \*

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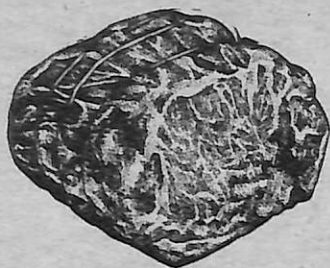
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Boneless Back Rump Roast	\$2.19 Lb.
Beef Round Cube Steak	\$2.89 Lb.
Beef Round Stew Beef	\$2.69 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
Porterhouse Steak	\$4.39 Lb.
T-Bone Steak	\$3.99 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins	\$5.39 Lb.
Grade "A" Boneless Skin-On Chicken Breast	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Zonin Italian Sausage (Hot Or Sweet)	\$1.99 Lb.

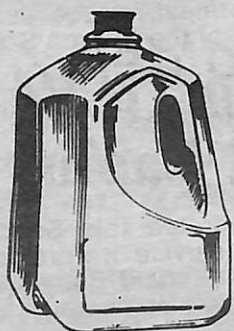


## SEAFOOD

Frozen Swordfish Steak	\$3.99 Lb.
Frozen Lobster Meat (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$9.99

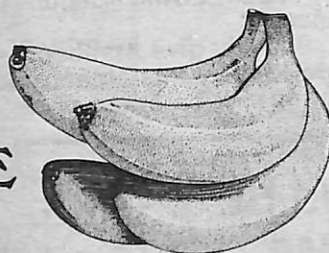
## Tuesday & Wednesday SPECIALS

Olympic Domestic Ham  
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## FROZEN & DAIRY

Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
Hood Skim Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
Hood Milk (Assorted Varieties - Pints)	49¢

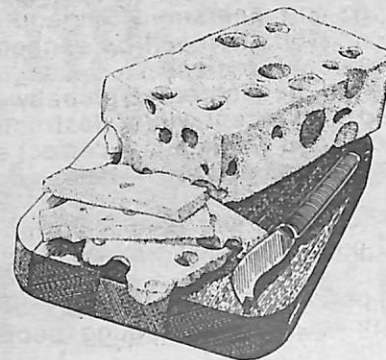


## PRODUCE

Bananas	39¢ Lb.
Crisp Air McIntosh Apples (3 Lb. Bag)	\$1.19
New Crop Honey	
Tangerines	3 For 89¢
Mini Carrots (1 Lb. Bag)	99¢
Cello Pak Mushrooms (Pkg.)	99¢
Green Squash	69¢ Lb.

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**88¢ A Bag**  
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Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.29 Lb.
Hormel Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Krakus Imported Ham	\$3.99 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	\$4.99 Lb.
Hudson Turkey Ham	\$1.99 Lb.
Russer Kielbasa Loaf	\$2.39 Lb.
Deutsmacher Polish Loaf	\$2.39 Lb.
Austrian Alps Imported Swiss Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.

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 Can Of Soda



# Church News

## News & Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m. and will include the Service of Holy Communion as well as the Reception of New Members. The lectionary readings for February 1st, the fourth Sunday after Epiphany, will be Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30.

Rev. Donaldson will give a sermon entitled "The Day They Turned on Jesus." The Lector will be Lani Kretschmar.

Children should attend worship with their parents leaving at a designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

The Board of Christian Education is asking the congregation to save pennies to deposit after morning worship into jugs placed in Griswold Hall.

The pennies collected will help to send a child to Camp Hemlock, a camp for physically challenged youths located in Hebron, Connecticut.

The Annual Meeting of the Feeding Hills Congregational Church will take place this Sunday, February 1st. Immediately after morning worship, there will be a covered dish luncheon, followed by the meeting.

All church members are urged to attend this important meeting.

The Ladies Benevolent Society will sponsor Blanket Sundays on February 15th and 22nd. Blankets in good condition will be accepted as well as monetary contributions.

The blankets will be distributed globally where they are needed. The recent winter destruction in Maine, New York, and Canada is a perfect example of the type of areas in need of help.

Operation Friendship will hold a bottle drive here from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 31st.

These young people are trying to raise money to further their friendships with young people in other parts of the world.

On the calendar:

**Thursday, January 29th:** 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., New member class; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

**Saturday, January 31st:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., OF bottle drive.

**Sunday, February 1st:** 10:00 a.m., Communion/New Member Sunday; Annual Meeting Luncheon.

**Monday, February 2nd:** 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Council.

**Tuesday, February 3rd:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.

**Wednesday, February 4th:** 7:00 p.m., Choir.

**Thursday, February 5th:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.

## Valley Community Church In Feeding Hills Busy With Many Pre-Lenten Activities

Valley Community Church is alive and filled with activity as members and friends eagerly engage in doing God's work.

Preparations are underway for the upcoming Lenten season; an "explorers" Bible study is forming for all who want to learn some of the basic truths of God's Word to strengthen their daily lives; and our children are actively involved in Mission work, both local and international.

Great things are happening at Valley Community Church!

This Sunday, February 1st, is Communion Sunday. Pastor Steve's message, taken from the gospel of Luke 4:21-30, will show how the people of Nazareth wanted to hear God's gracious words, but didn't want to face those same truths. Many, even today, are faced with the same blind reluctance.

(Nursery care is available throughout the service for parents of infants and toddlers.)

The children of the church will depart for Dunn Hall at 10:00 a.m. for Children's Church. Here they will learn the same message, but in words they can understand and apply to their young lives.

Coffee and Fellowship begins at 10:30 a.m. in Dunn Hall. We welcome visitors to join us and learn more about the church and its family.

Church School is available for all ages, from kindergarten through adults. Classes begin at 11:00 a.m., and Nursery care is available for all adults who would like to attend class.

Today, all of the children's classes will be busy in the kitchen, preparing a meal for Loaves and Fishes, under the direction of the Church School

teachers. The children and their parents will return to the church at 4:20 p.m. and depart for the mission in Springfield to serve supper to the hungry. This is one of the many times we see our children shine as they reach out and touch the lives of others.

All the "ladies" of the church will meet at the home of Dot Wells on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. for their monthly "Ladies Club" meeting. Amidst the laughter, great food, and fun games, these ladies will begin planning for the upcoming Easter season.

All ladies (members and friends) are welcome to attend.

The Youth Choir will meet in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, February 4th, at 6:15 p.m. These young singers eagerly share their music with other children during Children's Church and also with the congregation.

Cub Scout Troop 78 Den 3 will meet in Dunn Hall on Thursday evening from 6:15 until 7:45 p.m.

Valley Community Church warmly welcomes all who are searching for a church home to attend worship on Sunday morning. The service begins at 9:30 a.m.

If you need more information, please call the church at 786-2445, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

The church is located at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

## Communion To Be Celebrated This Sunday At First Baptist Church In Agawam

Communion will be celebrated this Sunday, February 1st, at the 9:30 a.m. service of worship at First Baptist Church. Pastor Richard Barnes will speak on "Because Christ Loves Us," using as his scriptural passage I John 3: 11-24.

As usual, food and fellowship will follow worship in Davis Hall. Church school classes are available for all ages until 11:45 a.m.

The Religious Education board will meet for their regular monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Lockhart Parlor.

On Monday evening, there will be a special meeting for all interested members, sponsored by the Amicitia Circle and the Missions Committee. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. and will feature Nicole Lussier, director of the Open Pantry Teen Living Center in Springfield, as the speaker.

She will give first-hand information on services provided by this organization to area teens. An offering will be taken of necessary toilet items for

mothers and babies.

For more information, call Mercy Barnes or Nancy Edwards.

Our calendar for this week is:

**Monday, February 2nd:** 7:30 p.m., Men's Group at the home of Doug Grabowski; 7:30 p.m., Special Missions Meeting.

**Tuesday, February 3rd:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

**Wednesday, February 4th:** 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

**Thursday, February 5th:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

**Friday and Saturday, February 6th and 7th:** "Bringing Back The Joy" - Spiritual Seminar, East Rutherford, New Jersey.

**Friday and Saturday, February 6th and 7th:** Retreat - American Baptist Women of MA (Mt. Marie Conference Center, Holyoke).

## Nocturnal Adoration Soc. To Meet Feb. 6

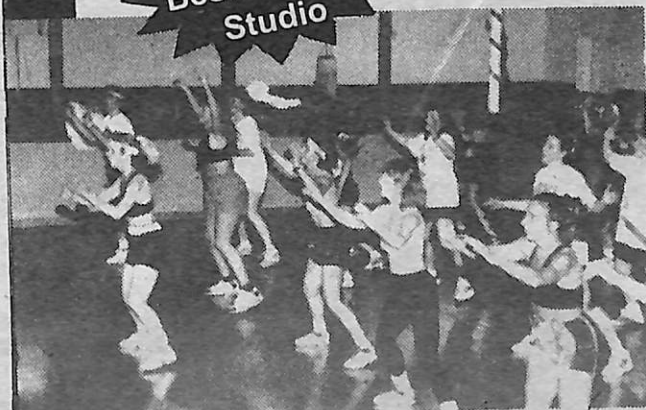
The Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will meet at Saint Louis Church in West Springfield to conduct and pray the Office of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, February 6th, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

All are invited to come and spend an hour in Eucharistic Adoration.

For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classified ads in each edition...

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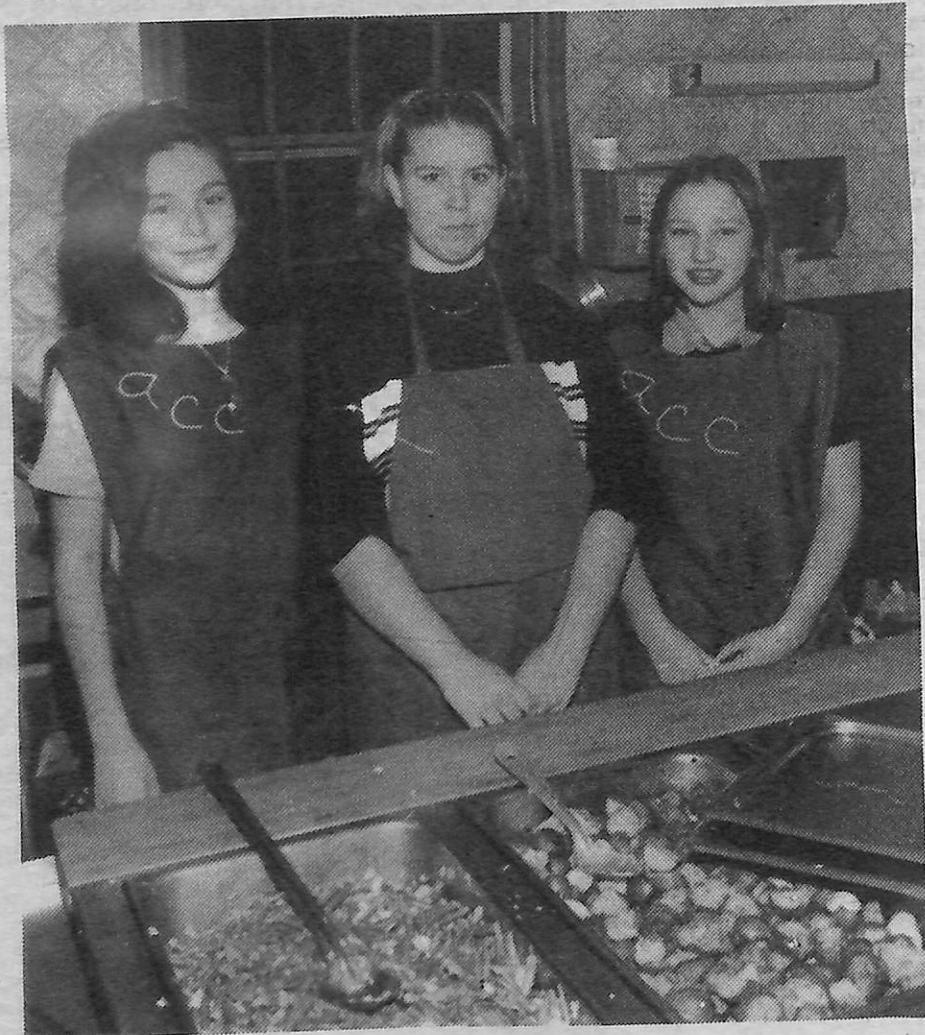
## Church News - continued...

## Fine Dining At Agawam Congo.



AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH recently held a roast pork dinner. IN TOP PHOTO: "Chefs" Christopher Hamel and Jerry Hamel. IN PHOTO BELOW: Jennifer Mesick, Sarah Hill, and Crystal Mesick served potatoes and vegetables.

Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



For all the news on local church events, you turn our pages each and every week...

## There's GREAT INTEREST in Westbank's New IRA Certificates

3 Year - 5 Year - \$1,000 Min.

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## Church News - continued...



## Reflections...

submitted by  
**Rev. Peter Monahan**  
 Pastor of the Church  
 of the Apostles.  
 Suffield, CT  
 (860) 668-4444 or  
 (413) 786-8735

## God Reaching Out To People

One of the main factors which distinguishes Christianity from all other religions is that Christianity is not a religion in the first place. Religion is people reaching up to God, often to appease Him or to try to wrangle benefits out of Him. Christianity, however, is God reaching out to people.

It makes sense for people to think they need to appease God. Not one of us lives up to our own expectations for ourselves. How much more do we fail to live up to God's expectations for us? The ironic thing is that many people are offended and become angry when they are confronted with their shortcomings. Angry reactions are all the more tragic, because God Himself has already addressed our problem of sin. God wants to get us beyond sin to a faith-filled life into which He can pour His blessings and His power.

A good example of this is found in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus was addressing a religious gathering in Nazareth. He had just told them that the promises of God, given through the prophets over hundreds of years, were indeed true and had been fulfilled with His appearing. The Bible tells us that the people's initial reaction was positive, though tepidly so. It goes on to say the people were amazed; that they marveled or wondered about Jesus, and then more or less dismissed Him. They assumed that because they knew Jesus during

His boyhood, He could not possibly be the long-awaited Messiah.

Jesus went on to challenge His neighbors for their lack of faith. He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And He said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove Him out of town, and led Him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl Him off the cliff. But He passed through their midst and went on His way.

All sin ultimately boils down to a lack of faith. If we believe in God, we should do what He says. The first thing God wants any of us to do is to accept His love and be His friend. That's what the widow at Zarephath had done, as well as Naaman the Syrian. Each of them accepted the prophet's assurance of God's love and stepped out in faith to accept that love. It was scary for both of them. The cost of being wrong would have been high for each of them. The widow would have starved to death. Naaman would have been humiliated. But both of them took the risk, and both of them were blessed.

Jesus pointed to these two recipients of God's grace as examples which His neighbors could follow. By so doing, Jesus proclaimed that nobody is beyond the reach of God's love and concern. He invited His neighbors to become friends with God. They chose instead to be offended and react in anger, thereby rejecting the outpouring of God's love and power into their lives.

## Healing Ministry Is Available From The Crossroads Christian Fellowship In F. Hills

"If you've ever read the Bible, it doesn't take a degree in theology to figure out that Jesus spent much of His ministry healing the sick. He not only did it Himself, but He continually exhorted His disciples to do the same," said Gary Reiff, Pastor of the Crossroads Christian Fellowship, 28 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

"In fact, His last words to us on this earth were, 'Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation ... And these signs will accompany those who believe ... they will place their hands on sick people and they will get well.' God heals the sick!"

"I was recently in India where I saw the blind see, the deaf hear, and the lame walk by the power of Jesus Christ. God is bigger than we think," he continued.

"God is healing the sick in Massachusetts. We believe that now, more than ever, God is revealing himself to those who seek him!"

"If you or someone you know is sick and desires prayer for healing, please come to our Sunday Morning Service at 10:00 a.m. at the Crossroads Christian Fellowship. If you are not able to come on Sunday morning, we would be happy to send a prayer team out to your home."

"Because we are excited about the awesome power of God, we would consider it a privilege to come to your home. Please call us at (413) 821-0937."

Our desire is that you know the power of the love of God. May God give you a hunger for His name!!!

## Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

A New Members Class will begin on Saturday, January 31st, at 10:00 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam. Any persons wishing to join the church may attend.

The Adult Education Class meets each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room. This week's class will be led by Dan Pender, Christian Education/ Youth Director.

The theme for Sunday will be "The Greatest of These is Love." All are welcome to attend.

This Sunday, February 1st, is Communion Sunday. Worship continues at 10:30 a.m.

The Sermon given by Rev. Fuller will be "The Greatest," taken from Text: 1 Corinthians 13:13. Rev. Fuller's Children's Message will be "Give Me an L."

The "Growing In God's Spirit," Capital Campaign Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, February 1st, at 5:00 p.m.

The banquet will be held at the First Baptist Church of Agawam. Our friends at the Baptist Church are catering a delicious meal of roast capon.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is canned veggies.

Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

Mark your calendars!!! The Friendship Committee will be sponsoring a Pot Luck Supper on Sunday, February 8th, at 5:30 p.m.

Entertainment for the evening will be Ed Popielarczyk's "Magical Moments."

Join us on February 14th for our church adult Valentine's Day Party from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Chuck Malloy, of Music Celebration, will be the D.J. for the party.

There will be music, refreshments, contests, door prizes, raffles, and more! Bring a friend! Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door.

The Catering Committee is planning a Yankee Pot Roast Dinner on Saturday, February 21st, at 5:30 p.m. Mark your calendars today!

On Sunday, February 22nd, the Report and Celebration Pot Luck Supper will be held at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

For more information concerning programs, events, or dinners, call the church office at 786-7111.

## ADVERTISER NEWS



Come join us. We have a lot to offer!

Free membership.  
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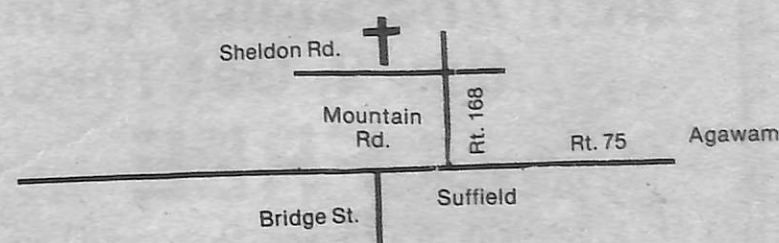
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## A Place Where Friends Have Yet To Meet.

- Sunday Service At 9:30.
- "Promise Keepers" Men's Breakfast On Alternate Saturdays.
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Reverend Peter Monahan  
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**Church News - continued...****West Spfld. Parish Assoc. To Sponsor "Open Pantry Month"**

The West Springfield Parish and Interfaith Association is sponsoring "February is Open Pantry Month" to benefit the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. This is a new program to make the community aware of the continuing needs of the pantry, and to celebrate its success, not just during the holiday season.

Food items needed at this particular time are canned tuna, canned pasta meals, boxed macaroni and cheese, and boxed side dishes. The pantry is always in need of small working appliances, such as electric fry pans, crockpots, etc. Also, the Pantry is preparing for the Easter season and needs Easter baskets as well as the small items to fill them (jelly beans, candy, small toys, and stuffed animals, etc.).

The members of the West Springfield Parish and Interfaith Association are Church of the Good Shepherd, First Baptist Church, First Congregational Church, First United Methodist Church, Grace Lutheran Church, Immaculate Conception Church, Mittineague Congregational Church, Mittineague United Methodist Church, St. Ann's Church, St. Louis De France Church, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, and the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry.

**LEGAL NOTICE****LEGAL NOTICE**

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**

A Design Public Hearing will be held by the Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway) to discuss the proposed reconstruction of Route 187, North Westfield/South Westfield Street, in the Town of Agawam.

**WHERE:** Agawam Junior High School, 1305 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

**WHEN:** Thursday, February 12, 1998 at 7:00 P.M.

**PURPOSE:** To provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed roadway reconstruction project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

**PROPOSAL:** The proposed project will consist of reconstructing Route 187, North Westfield Street, from the Westfield City line to the Southwick/Springfield Street intersection, approximately 4.8 kilometers (3.0 miles). Also included is a section of Route 187, along South Westfield Street and Pine Street, for approximately .5 kilometers (.3 miles). The work will include shoulder widening, full-depth roadway reconstruction, the installation of new traffic signals at the South Westfield/North Street intersection, installation of sidewalks, and improved roadway drainage where necessary. A secure Right of Way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Town of Agawam is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassHighway's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassHighway subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements at the public hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Highway Department, Ten Park Plaza, Boston, Massachusetts 02116. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. The final date for receipt of these statements and exhibits will be ten (10) days after the public hearing.

Plans will be on display for one half hour before the hearing, with an Engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project.

Kevin J. Sullivan, COMMISSIONER  
Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., CHIEF ENGINEER  
Boston, Massachusetts

Published: January 29, 1998

**JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053 and leave a message for him.**

**Upcoming Events At St. John's In Agawam**

St. John's Over 60-Group has their next trip planned for February 5th, a dinner at "Randall's Ordinary" in Stonington, CT, a five-star restaurant which is anything but ordinary.

A visit to Stonington Vineyards will be the first stop. Cost for the trip is \$47. There are still a few seats available.

If interested, please call Lill at 786-9586 or Barbara at 786-7037.

\*\*\*

The Agawam Catholic Singles Club hold meetings every second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in joining should call Frank at 789-2764 or Kay at 786-8442.

**Upcoming Events**

**Feb. 1st:** Sleigh ride or ice skating. Call Jo Ann, 789-2945.

**Feb. 6th:** Slide Show. Appalachian Mt. Library. 7:30 p.m. Call Joanne at 786-1583.

**St. John's Guild**

The next meeting of the Guild will be held on Tuesday, February 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. This will be the annual POT LOCK Supper. Guests are welcome.

For information, call Donna at 786-9583 or Jean at 786-9451.

The new Parish Handbook, outlining the many areas of volunteering experienced at St. John's, is available in the front foyer of the church, or at the Rectory if you did not obtain one.

*Best local news...*

**Catholic Women's Club Of Agawam To Meet February 9th**

The February meeting of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will be held in the Parish Center of St. John the Evangelist Church on Monday, February 9th at 7:30 p.m.

Following a brief business meeting conducted by President Betsy Ciempa, Carol Pignatere will present Fr. Michael Doyle and Sister Jane Morrissey, who will hold a discussion entitled "North End - Spanish Population."

Hospitality chairwoman Jane Trevethan will be assisted by the following: Ann Jackobek, Mary Gontczaruk, Marilyn Greene, Barbara Pfau, and Peggy Lepper.

**Catholic Women's Club Slates Giant Tag & Rummage Sale**

The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will sponsor a giant tag sale/rummage sale in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Church on Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Any interested vendor can obtain complete information by calling Betsy Ciempa, 786-5160. Spaces will be assigned on a first-come basis.

**It's almost time.  
You need your tickets.**

**Saturday, March 7,  
1998**



**You can't miss it !!**

**Western Mass Epilepsy Awareness  
Committee**

**4th Annual Dinner Dance**

**Chez Josef**

**Tickets \$25 Per Person**

**Tickets Available By Calling:**

Sue & Wayne Hearn 789-1529

Sharon & Sean Collins 789-0058

Kim & Rick Martel 786-1169

Maria & John Pietroniro 786-5770





## Spotlight On Business



SUSAN MILLER of West Springfield (left photo) and LORI KEELEY of Feeding Hills (right photo), owners of Travel Connections, LTD, are always ready to help you with your travel needs and requests.

Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

### Travel Connections, LTD Has Expanded Its West Springfield Office

Travel Connections, LTD recently expanded its office and moved two doors down to 10 Chestnut Street in West Springfield.

Owners Lori Keeley of Feeding Hills and Susan Miller of West Springfield opened their business in February 1996. Both owners are 19-year veterans in the travel industry and attribute their success to continued learning, customer referrals, and continued community support from both

Agawam and West Springfield.

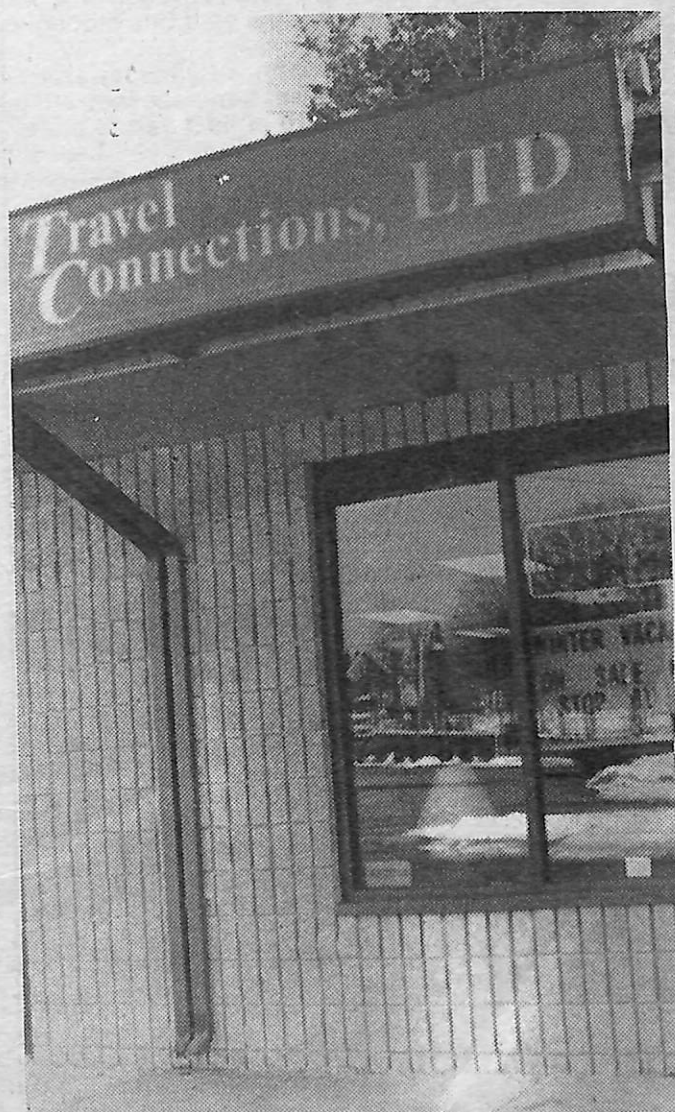
The owners also expressed that good customer service skills will complement any business, and they try to focus on making the client feel special.

Travel Connections, LTD is a full-service travel agency offering a complete line of vacation and business travel planning. Among their services are airline ticket reservations, cruises, Amtrak, Walt DisneyWorld vacations, honeymoons, and

escorted tours.

No request is too unusual or exotic for the staff of Travel Connections. Business hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Future plans include the grand opening of Travel Connections, School of Travel in September 1998. Stop in and see the new office of Travel Connections, LTD.



TRAVEL CONNECTIONS, LTD recently moved two doors down to 10 Chestnut Street in West Springfield. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

**Pam Savioli**

**Landry, Lyons &  
Whyte Co./Better  
Homes & Gardens**



#### 1998 State Of The Market Address...

The year 1997 proved to be an exciting one for the Hampden County real estate market.

Many more homes were sold in that year than in 1996. The number of homes sold in 1997 was 3,252, compared to 3,034 in 1996 — up 7.2 percent. The average sales price in 1997 was \$114,778, compared to \$113,501 in 1996 — up 1.12 percent.

The average interest rate for a 30-year fixed rate mortgage dipped to 6.625 percent. In the 26 years Freddie Mac has been tracking weekly mortgage averages, the 30-year rate has been lower than 6.99 percent only 14 weeks.

In 1997, I met and helped many new families with their real estate needs. I look forward to continuing to meet people and assisting them with buying or selling a home.

I have believed in, and worked toward, the goal of providing you the best possible service. I am at your disposal, available to provide you quality feedback, service, seller representation, and new this year, buyer representation.

The low interest rates, combined with low inflation, demonstrate a sound U.S. economy, which makes me excited about the prospects ahead for 1998. What does 1998 hold for you?

If a move is in your, your family's, or your friends' future, this should be the best year for interest rates and moderate sale prices. It is a perfect year for moving up, out, or across the nation!

Please call me for a no-obligation market analysis of your home or a financial qualification — (413) 748-7565.

### Molta Associates Announces Increase In Local Home Sales

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates, which has become one of the leaders in the luxury homes market, has announced a 73 percent increase in local home sales over \$250,000 in 1997 compared to 1996.

Internationally, Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation has also announced a continuing surge in million dollar home sales by its affiliates. In the third quarter alone, Coldwell Banker affiliates sold 606 million-dollar properties worth a total of more than \$1 billion.

The company also announced a record-breaking 50 percent increase in sales in the luxury home market for 1997.

"We believe that the healthy economy and our exclusive luxury home marketing program have contributed to our success in this important market," said Robert Molta, President. Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates launched its new Previews Luxury home division in January 1996.

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates is located in Agawam, Longmeadow, Southwick, Springfield, & Westfield. For information on the Previews Program, call the luxury home division at (413) 567-8931.

*Be sure to patronize the local businesses that are featured in our "Spotlight On Business"...*



# For Your Health



## Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph  
S. Schlaffer  
Schlaffer  
Chiropractic Offices  
192 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam

### Spinal Surgery Is Radical...

**QUESTION:** I've been taking medication for low back and leg pain and it doesn't seem to be helping. My doctor recommended an MRI scan.

The results indicate a disc bulge, and now I'm told that surgery on the low back is needed. This seems drastic. Is there any alternative?

**ANSWER:** Yes! When you say drastic, you are so right. Any surgery is a radical procedure and must be done only after more conservative methods have failed.

Experts have questioned whether the findings necessarily relate to patient complaints and whether they are responsible for increased surgery. A study in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, "Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Lumbar Spine in People without Back Pain," examines that question.

The study did MRIs on 98 people without symptoms and discovered a high prevalence of disc bulges, protrusions, and extrusions. With the results of two readings averaged, 52 percent of people without symptoms had a bulge of at least one intervertebral disc; 27 percent had a protrusion; and one percent had an extrusion.

Thus, 64 percent of these people without back pain had a disc abnormality, and 38 percent had an abnormality at more than one level.

While surgery may be recommended following a positive MRI scan, it is wise to remember that surgical intervention — especially in the spine — is to be considered a radical procedure and should be performed ONLY as a last resort. Only rarely is it necessary for a patient to undergo surgery.

Conservative manipulation (adjustments) performed by a qualified doctor of chiropractic continues to be reinforced as the first path of treatment before most other forms of treatment. Should alternative treatment be needed, your chiropractor will refer you to the appropriate physician.

If you suffer with back problems, call the **SCHLAFFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE, 192 Shoemaker Lane, tel. (413) 789-1369.** We care about you!

## Dr. Steve Sobel To Conduct Two Seminars At WNEC

Dr. Steve Sobel, founder and director of The New England Institute For Stress Management of Longmeadow has been chosen to conduct two seminars at Western New England's Downtown Campus.

All programs are open to personnel from area businesses and organizations. On Tuesday, February 10th from 1:00-4:00 p.m., Sobel will present "Stress Reduction Technique for a Healthier, Productive, Resilient and Fulfilling Future."

On March 19th from 1:00-4:00 p.m., Sobel will present "Dancing With Wolves—How to Deal Superbly and Creatively With Difficult People."

Call 733-9632 for registration information and details.

*"For Your Health" is  
a weekly feature of  
the AAN...*

## Electrology Associates Of Hampden County

Professional Permanent Hair Removal

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## Mercy Hospital To Offer "Healthy Heart" Events

The Weldon Center for Rehabilitation at Mercy Hospital will sponsor a series of events to celebrate February as Healthy Heart Month, with experts presenting programs on cardiac health-related topics.

There is no charge, and light refreshments will be served. The presentations will be held from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Deliso Conference Center at Mercy Hospital, 299 Carew St.

- Feb. 3rd: "Heart Disease, Risks and Prevention Strategies, with an Emphasis on the Impact of Cholesterol," presented by cardiologist Jay Markham, M.D., Medical Director of the Weldon Center's Cardiac Rehabilitation program. The presentation will include a lecture and discussion;

- Feb. 10th: "Stress and Heart Health," presented by Glenn Fagen, Ph.D., Director of Psychology at Mercy Hospital. The discussion will focus on mechanisms of stress and stress reduction. Alternative forms of stress management will be presented by staff from Heart Song Yoga center of East Longmeadow.

- Feb. 17th: "Healthy Choices," presented by chef Lynne Paterson. She will discuss the importance of practicing healthy nutritional habits, and will explain how to shop and cook with your health in mind. She will also prepare a healthy and delicious meal, providing a step-by-step explanation; and

- Feb. 24th: "The How, When and Whys of Starting an Exercise Program," presented by Midge Theulin, Fitness Director, Springfield YMCA and Steven Pizzo, M.S., Coordinator, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Weldon Center. The discussion will focus on determining when an exercise program is right for you, what kind is appropriate, and how much and how long to exercise.

For more information, call Steven Pizzo, M.S., or Claudia Brass, B.S.N., (413) 748-6890.



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### Motor Vehicle Accidents

Motor vehicle accidents, even minor fender benders, can result in serious injuries. The deep tissues, including ligaments, discs, and joints, are frequently damaged as a result of impact.

Because this deep area does not receive much blood supply, it is often slow to heal. Patience often complain of a stiff neck the day after the injury, and often ignore it thinking it will go away. However, the pain and stiffness persist for weeks and months. It is not uncommon for pain and stiffness to persist for 12 to 18 months after initial injury. It is imperative to get proper treatment in order for the correct healing process to occur.

When injury occurs, the body lays down connective tissue. If this connective tissue does not lay parallel to the muscle fibers, scar tissue and fibrous adhesions may occur. This is why some people comment, "My neck has never been the same since that injury" or "It's never been able to turn all the way since the accident."

This is due to the fact that adhesion and scar tissue have formed. To prevent this from happening, it's important to mobilize the individual joints. Just as modern techniques have found that after surgery motion is important right away to prevent scar tissue, motion is just as important in the spine after a motor vehicle accident.

To do this, chiropractic adjustments mobilize the affected spinal joints in order to increase joint motion and decrease adhesions.

If you have been in a motor vehicle accident, even a minor one, it is important to be checked by a chiropractor to assess your spine.

## Mercy Hospital In Springfield Has Cancer Support Group Mtgs. On Monday Evenings

Persons with cancer, their families, and friends are invited to attend Mercy Hospital's Cancer Support Group. Meetings are conducted Mondays, 7:00 p.m., in the Deliso Conference Center, and are free of charge.

The group offers information on topics of interest to cancer patients, and provides an opportunity to share experiences in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Meetings are facilitated by Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P., of Mercy's Pastoral Care Department.

For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department, (413) 748-9453.

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12 noon*

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Reed Shnider, M.D.

and

Trisha Porter, R.N., B.S.N., A.C.L.S. Certified

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February 12, 1998**

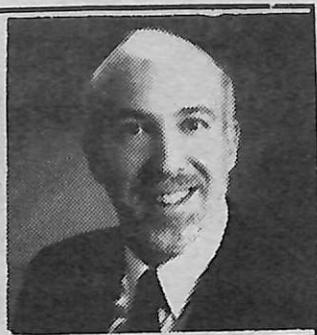
**5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Conference Room A  
Noble Hospital**

Light refreshments will be served. Seating is limited.  
Registration is required. For free registration call (413) 568-2328



## For Your Health - continued...

Managing  
YOUR  
STRESSby Dr. Stephen Sobel  
M.S., S.M.C.The "Advantages" Of Being A  
Negative Or Pessimistic Thinker

I describe negative thinkers as the type of people who believe every baby has to get diaper rash in the first three days of life. They feel it is inevitable.

I use the words "negative thinker" synonymously with "pessimistic thinker." The pessimistic thinker is much like the negative thinker in that whenever he or she leaves a room where there are other people, the room seems to brighten up just by the fact that this person has left.

The pessimistic thinker is also the type of person who feels that his fate is usually reserved for one serving a life sentence for a serious crime. He carries gloom and doom verbally and nonverbally.

He often looks as if life had beaten him on a daily basis with a heavy broom. His facial expressions are enough to ruin even the most enthusiastic of appetites for people who haven't eaten in days.

Negative and pessimistic thinkers are also well known for draining the energy level of others in a short period of time. Some people report that a truly negative person can make one feel like day-old spaghetti within 20 seconds of trying to converse with him. The truly negative person will usually give off the message, even if he or she doesn't say anything, "What's the use?"

I am sure you have run into a few negative people over the last few days, weeks, or years. What you will almost never find out is that these energy drainers actually think there are advantages to staying increasingly negative and pessimistic.

I would like to share with you the insights provided by a recent interview with 15 of the most draining, negative, doom and gloom people I could find. (I needed three weeks to recover from the interviews, as I didn't understand how contagious negativity really is even if you think you



can block it out. There is no sun-screen powerful enough for the TPNP, the truly persistent negative person.)

The interviews will provide you with the "advantages" people think they have in staying increasingly negative and sour.

## A TPNP's Advantages...

- "I gets me much attention."
- "It requires effort, and this makes me feel like I have done something with the day."
- "It allows me, because of my negative and sour disposition, to not take risks in life."
- "It often prevents me from having to leave the house."
- "It goes a long way toward allowing me to not listen closely and be in touch with others. It is the perfect recipe for isolation and sustained misery."

\* \* \*

Dr. Buddy L. Denison  
Is In 1998-1999 Who's  
Who Exec. Directory

Those named to the directory have been honored for reaching a level of recognizable success in their respective field.

The 1998-1999 Edition of *The American Directory of Who's Who in Executives & Businesses* is only received by included members. This year's edition will be registered at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Denison's offices are located at 46 Suffield Street, Agawam.

Dr. Stephen Sobel's  
"Managing YOUR STRESS"  
is another reason why  
you turn our pages...

\* \* \*

Food  
for  
Thoughtby Nancy Dell  
Registered DieticianDrinking Tea May Be  
Better Than Water

"Take some more tea" said the hare to Alice at the tea party in "Alice in Wonderland." It may be good advice. Tea leaves are chock full of substances called polyphenols—antioxidants that can help prevent cancer, stroke, and heart disease.

Research shows that one group of these healthy compounds in tea trap cancer-causing chemicals and speeds them out of the body. If cancer cells do form, these same compounds can prevent them from multiplying. Mice given green tea in their drinking water developed half the number of expected lung tumors when exposed to a carcinogen in tobacco smoke. In Shanghai, studies show tea drinkers may cut their risk of throat cancer by more than half compared to non-tea drinkers.

A recent study found that stroke was reduced 70 percent in men who drank five or more cups of black tea a day. The antioxidant properties of the pigments in the leaves may protect against stroke in two ways. They reduce the formation of blood clots that may block the flow of blood to the brain and cause a stroke. They also protect arteries from everyday damage.

People with asthmas may breathe easier if they drink tea. The naturally occurring compounds called theophyllines in tea dilate airways in the lungs. Theophyllines have become part of drugs to treat asthma.

## THE DRAWBACKS

Tea leaves contain twice as much caffeine ounce for ounce as coffee beans. However, we use so few leaves to make a cup of tea, the caffeine content is minimized. If you are sensitive to caffeine, you can use a decaf tea. Super sensitive people may develop migraines from too much tea.

Try to avoid drinking black or green tea with a meal. The tannins in tea may cut the absorption of the iron in the food and may lead to anemia.

Let your tea cool a bit before enjoying it. Drinking tea boiling hot may harm your throat and increase your risk of throat cancer.

The healthy components of the plant that goes into a tea bag gets brewed into the water that we drink. You could say drinking tea is like having your water plus an extra serving of healthy vegetables, too. And everyone knows mom always said it's good to each - or in this case, "drink" - your vegetables.



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## Arts

### Storowton Village Reschedules Program On Emily Dickinson

Storowton Village Museum's first person presentation titled "The Belle of Amherst, Emily Dickinson," originally scheduled for Friday, January 23rd at 7:00 p.m. has been rescheduled and will now take place Friday, February 13th at 7:30 p.m. in Storowton Village Museum's Meeting House.

Actress Belinda West of Belmont, Mass. will portray Emily Dickinson, the Amherst poet who was born in 1830 and lived in Amherst in seclusion most of her life. Dickinson penned hundreds of poems, however, only 10 were published in her lifetime.

Using many of Dickinson's own words, West's February 13th performance will provide a window into classic American literature as she revives the poems and stories of Dickinson and answers the questions of her 20th century visitors.

West, a native New Englander, received her BA from Dartmouth College and studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York. She worked as a television news reporter, a writer, and a teacher before she began portraying historical characters in 1990. She also recites Dickinson's poetry most Sunday afternoons at the Colonial Inn in Concord, Mass.

Prepare to travel back in time and meet this famous poet. Admission to the program is \$3 and reservations may be made by calling the Village at 413-787-0136. Tickets will also be available at the door.

### Riverside Park Slates Auditions For 1998 Summer Season

Riverside Park will host entertainment auditions for the 1998 summer season at the Springfield Marriott in downtown Springfield on February 7th-8th at 11:00 a.m. The entertainment season opens on April 25th with rehearsals beginning two weeks prior.

The Park expects to hire between 20 and 25 local performers to fill the summer jobs. Available positions include singers, dancers, character actors, mascots, jugglers, and clowns. "We have an exciting season planned and are pleased to again offer these positions to our local performing arts community," said Peter Shannon, Entertainment Manager.

Dancing and singing applicants should come prepared to perform. Character actors, jugglers, and clowns should prepare and be ready to perform a two-minute humorous monologue or routine.

Performers must be 16 or older by the first rehearsal date in mid-April. For more information, contact the Audition Hotline at (413) 786-9300, ext. 3322.

### WestFest Meeting Slated For Feb. 5th

The next planning meeting for WestFest is scheduled for Thursday, February 5th, at 7:30 p.m. at United Methodist Church (corner of Court Street and Holland Avenue), Westfield.

Volunteers and committee members are needed. Please call 568-2962 for further information.

### Crafters Sought By Jr. Women's Club

Crafters are sought for the Agawam Junior Women's Club 24th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 1998 from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Fair will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam. All types of artisans and crafters are invited to participate in this event. The show will be juried and feature approximately 80-100 exhibitors.

Admission is free and all proceeds benefit the AJWC Scholarship Fund. Tours of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House will be available. A Youth Art Exhibit will be on display as well.

The size of each space will be 12' x 12' and a \$45 showing fee will be due at time of application. A food concession will also be available during the day for your convenience.

For more information or an application, please call Paula at 786-0511 or Margaret at 786-2651.



GLORIA MCLELLAN (above), a member of the Agawam Community Artists and a well-known decorative ware instructor.

### Gloria McLellan To Present Demonstration On Cut-And-Piece Lampshade Construction

Gloria McLellan, a member of the Agawam Community Artists, will demonstrate the art of cut-and-piece lampshade construction on Thursday, February 8th at the Captain Leonard House, 633 Main St., Agawam.

A lifelong resident, Gloria is a well-known decorative ware instructor. For 35 years, her many classes have shared in her extensive knowledge in the field of Decorative Arts. Reverse Glass Painting, Theorems, Floorcloth Design, and Oil Painting are but a few areas she enthusiastically shares with her students.

While studying with Beverly Kaiser of Cape Cod, MA, Gloria became interested in water-

colors. In 1993, Gloria won "Best of Show" and "People's Choice" for her beautiful garden and landscape watercolors in the Agawam Community Artists' annual art show.

Under the auspices of the Agawam Cultural Council, meetings and demonstrations of the Agawam Community Artists are free and open to the public.

For additional information regarding the Agawam Community Artists or any of the artists that have been featured in its schedule of monthly programs, please contact Florida Tangocci at 786-3689.

### Presentation On "Appalachian Trail" At Agawam Library

As part of its First Friday Series, the Agawam Cultural Council will present an evening with Henry Lafleur at the Agawam Public Library on February 6th, 7:30 p.m.

Lafleur will host a slide show on an Appalachian Trail Hiking Journey.

On June 29th, Lafleur strapped on a 50-pound backpack and started off from Mount Katahdin in Maine and reached Springer Mountain, Georgia, six months later on January 3rd. He had hiked a total of 2,158 miles covering 14 states.

This event is open to the public at no charge. It is funded by a grant provided from the Agawam Cultural Council, which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

### Hilltop Players Announce Auditions

HILLTOP PLAYERS announces auditions for its spring musical production of "HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSON" on February 8th and 9th from 7:00-8:00 p.m. at THE RED DOOR THEATRE, 152 So. Westfield St., Feeding Hills.

Auditions are open to ages nine to adult. Some non-singing roles are available. Please prepare a SHORT musical number.

If you have any questions about these auditions, call 789-2026. Show dates are March 27th, 28th, 29th, and April 3rd and 4th.



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AN EXAMPLE OF THE ARTWORK by Genia Stec that will be on display at the Agawam Public Library.

## Agawam Library To Present Work Of Artist Genia Stec

The Agawam Public Library is pleased to present the artwork of Genia Stec of Chicopee in the gallery for the month of February.

Genia has been interested in art since she was a child. Often, her father took her to the fields where they lived in Poland and pointed out colors, shadows, and shapes to her, and how they related to each other. She learned to observe at an early age. When she was 13, her family moved to the United States, where she continued to study art whenever possible.

Now, Genia is a skilled freelance artist, who enjoys doing still lifes, portraits, and landscapes. She is also a restorer of paintings and a graphic artist. The artist states, "I believe my conservative style is a reflection of my Eastern European background and Catholic upbringing." Genia is versatile in teaching art skills to children of all ages and adults.

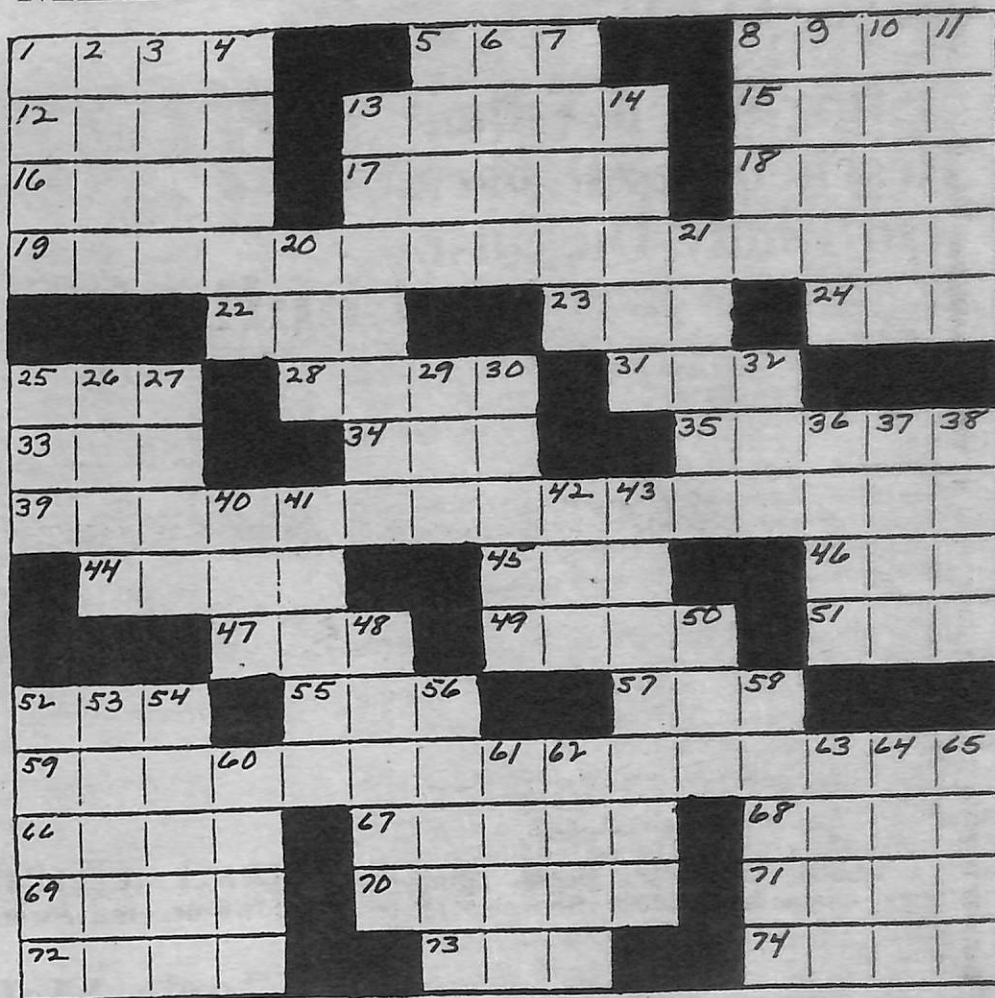
Her artwork has been exhibited locally through the Springfield Art League, the Women's League, and the National Park Academy of the Arts.

The viewing hours for the gallery are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.; Friday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

### ACROSS

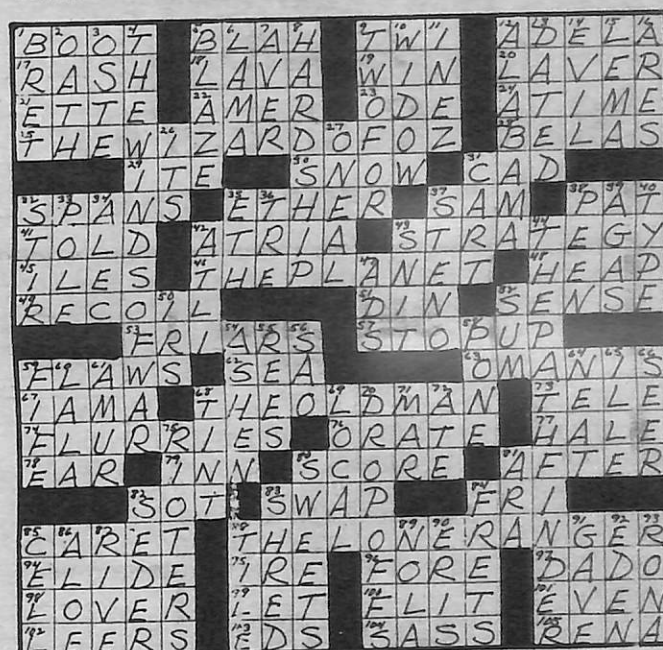
- 1 Actor Baldwin
  - 5 August weather
  - 8 Smelting refuse
  - 12 Bring up
  - 13 High temp
  - 15 Ashen
  - 16 Pot builder
  - 17 Andes' wool producer
  - 18 Major follower
  - 19 Slider, curve, and beanball
  - 22 Singer Boone
  - 23 "Not — dare"
  - 24 Before (poetical)
  - 25 Chemist's milieu
  - 28 Ring
  - 31 "—fi"
  - 33 G.P.'s org.
  - 34 Compass heading
  - 35 Within (prefix)
  - 39 Shank, slice, and pop-up
  - 44 Tommy's rifle
  - 45 Ring stone
  - 46 Sign on the dotted line
  - 47 Aliens
  - 49 Pound sounds
  - 51 "Titanic" message
  - 52 Health farm
  - 55 New Deal org.
  - 57 "Not — rule"
  - 59 Involuntary movements
  - 66 "Suit to —"
  - 67 Often spread item
  - 68 Record
  - 69 Descartes
  - 70 Starship "Enterprise" quests
  - 71 Kiln or oast
  - 72 Notable time periods
  - 73 Naval officer (abbr.)
  - 74 Actress Donna
- ### DOWN
- 1 Semite
  - 2 Al Capp's hyena
  - 3 Dines
  - 4 Inch along
  - 5 Hades
  - 6 White House office
  - 7 Musical beat
  - 8 Specification for short
  - 9 Turning machine
  - 10 Change
  - 11 Gaggles members
  - 13 Knock down in a fight
  - 14 Showers
  - 20 "—relief"
  - 21 Implied
  - 25 Fall behind
  - 26 Actor John

## MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni...



- 27 Estonian
- 29 London's land
- 30 Singer Lee
- 32 "Murder —"
- 36 "— is my desire"
- 37 Nevada city
- 38 Inquires
- 40 Service charge
- 41 "Break —" (halve)
- 42 Garland
- 43 Weakens
- 48 Gush
- 50 Flyer from Orly
- 52 Trap
- 53 Pianist Nero
- 54 The Omni
- 56 "Bet only on — thing"
- 58 Stage performer
- 60 Flight formations
- 61 Ness and his people
- 62 Chinese chef's pans
- 63 "Yes, we — no bananas"
- 64 Dueling sword
- 65 Remit

### Last Week's Solution...

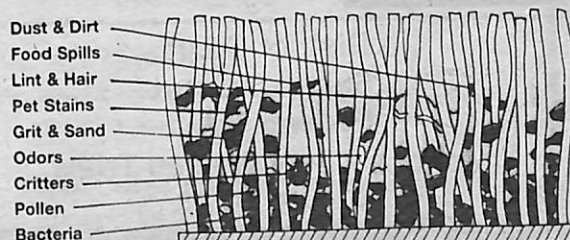


*Dick Mastroianni's "Meet The Master" is another reason why you turn our pages.*

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Averages are based on a 1996 survey of 11,332 random listings among real estate professionals throughout the United States. Methodology and findings verified by Flaspohler Rose Quantitative Research, Inc., an independent market research company. Survey results are available upon request. © 1997 Aon Home Warranty Services, Inc.

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## Education

# Jr. High Students Create Their Own Futuristic City

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

You won't find it on any map. But, JAM, USA could serve as a model for city planners of the future. Constructed of recycled materials, the model city's name is an acronym formed from the first names of the three eighth graders who are the architects, engineers, and construction crew behind the future city.

Jared Hamre, Adam Rovithis, and Michael DeCaro have been coming to school early and staying late every day for the last three months to design and build a scale model of their concept of a future city that incorporates residential, commercial, and industrial areas, as well as the power plants, transmission lines, and the infrastructure to support a growing economy. As city planners, the boys had to deal with and solve issues like pollution levels, traffic density, taxes, and budgets, and they had to construct their model city for less than \$100.

### Celebration of Nat'l. Engineers Week

Working with Agawam Junior High School technology teacher John Burns, the three member team put the finishing touches on JAM, USA in preparation for a regional engineering contest at Western New England College (WNEC) that could lead to a trip to Washington D.C., and an entry into the national competition celebrating National Engineers Week in February.

The Sixth Annual National Engineers Week Future City competition is open to seventh and eighth graders in the 15 designated cities and areas across the country that qualified for the national contest.

A member of both the Western Massachusetts Engineering Society and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Burns explained that educators and engineers interested in entering the competition had to write a proposal demonstrating their ability to provide a space for the contest, as well as demonstrate their experience in organizing and judging educational contests in order to qualify as a competition site.

"Our Pioneer Valley proposal, in cooperation with the WNEC School of Engineering, was the only one in the state to qualify," Burns said. "Next year, we're hoping to expand the program to include the eastern part of the state with Worcester Polytech picking up the central part of the state and the Boston Civil Engineers Association picking up the Boston area."

At the regional level, the Agawam students will be competing against students from Southwick Middle School, Chestnut Junior High, Williston Academy, St. Mary's Immaculate Conception, and Glenbrook Middle School.

The national competition aims at fostering interest in engineering, math, and science through hands-on, real-world applications. Using the computer game SimCity 2000, the students must design and print out the map of their future city; construct a model of one section of the city which



**THE THREE EIGHTH GRADERS** who are responsible for JAM, USA: Jared Hamre, Adam Rovithis, and Michael DeCaro. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

must include at least one moving part; present a seven-minute oral engineering discussion of their work; and write a 500-word essay solving a specific engineering problem.

According to Burns, the amount of work involved in the project, as the students go from the theoretical problem solving of using a computer game to design a city to the actual hands-on work of constructing their design, leads to a drop-out rate of about two-thirds of the schools and students originally interested in the competition. In the Pioneer Valley competition, seven of 20 schools expected to compete at WNEC dropped out of the competition.

### An Intro Into Engineering

"The Future City Competition gives the kids an intro into what engineering is all about and it gives them a real demonstration of what commitment is," Burns said. "After all, anyone can let a computer do their work for them, but when it came to the actual building of the city, we lost some of the schools and some of the teams at the participating schools."

Jared Hamre signed on to the project when he discovered it was based on one of his favorite computer games. The idea is to construct a city with a growing economy that will attract more people and more industry (while taking into consideration problems like traffic and pollution).

"First, you select a power plant, then you layout the areas for commercial, industrial, and residential property. You have to put in the roads and some power lines," Jared explained. "We wanted to get a little of everything in our city."

Adam Rovithis added, "We put in police and fire stations, residences and industry, a stadium, a subway system, and we have a river running through the city."

With construction costs for their model city limited to \$100, the boys relied on styrofoam, scrap metal, cereal boxes, a cookie tin, a dead battery, and just about anything else they could recycle, including the fake grass from a discarded train set. The "water" in the river will cost the price of a box of Berryblue Jell-O.

The team went beyond the requirement for at least one moving part by including a soccer stadium with spotlights and a blimp circling

overhead. They also added an exhaust fan for the subway system.

The stadium was Michael DeCaro's idea. "I really enjoyed making the soccer stadium because I'm a huge soccer fan," Michael said.

### Solving Two Problems At Once

The subway exhaust fan evolved from the essay they had to write to solve a traffic problem. "If we could solve the traffic problem, we could solve the pollution problem, too," Jared said. "That's why we added the subway and a major highway."

To solve the problem of how to recycle styrofoam as a building material, the boys built their own tools to give the cut edges of the building material a smooth, rather than a jagged, edge.

"I never knew it was as hard as this," Michael said. "I always thought when construction crews went out to work, that was it. But, planning a city is a lot harder than I thought."

Still, the team agreed the project has been worth the work, even if they don't win a prize in the competition.

"We've learned some real stuff about electronics and it was fun, too," Adam said.

Jared said he enjoyed the electronics and getting the working parts going.

Burns said the number of students who drop out of the program mirrors the number of college students who begin, but don't finish engineering programs. The competition benefits the students by giving them a window into the engineering profession.

"If they've never had a chance to see what engineering is all about, they'd never do the work it takes to get there," Burns said.

## Happy 13th Birthday Mikey



Love,  
Mom, Dad, Amy & Kenny

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## Agawam High School February 1998 Calendar Of Events

**Feb. 1st-13th:** "Save Your Sweetheart" lollipop drive. Sponsored by Peer Leadership

**Feb. 2nd:** LaChandeleur. All French classes; AHS Band Parents' meeting, 7:00 p.m.

**Feb. 4th:** Math Team meets with Longmeadow; Math Club meeting (plan for Math Week); Freshman Class Meeting, Room 49

**Feb. 5th:** WINTER TOP 40; "Date-Rape/Dating Violence" sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program

**Feb. 9th-13th:** Renaissance Pizza Party

**Feb. 10th:** Eighth Grade Band Time, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

**Feb. 12th:** National Honor Society Induction of New Members, 7:00 p.m.

**Feb. 14th:** SPIRITFEST cheerleading competition at Agawam High School, 2:00 p.m.; Color Guard and Percussion performance at New Bedford, 6:00 p.m.; Jazz Band performance at Enrico-Fermi, 8:30 a.m.

**Feb. 16th-20th:** MID-WINTER VACATION

**Feb. 22nd:** CHEER CELEBRATION, cheerleading competition at Chicopee Comp., 2:00 p.m.

**Feb. 23rd:** Renaissance gold/gold plus card distribution for all classes

**Feb. 25th:** Math Club meeting. Plan for Math Week

**Feb. 26th:** AHS School Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.; Jazz Band at West Springfield H.S., 4:00 p.m.; "FAME" production, AHS auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**Feb. 27th:** "FAME" production, AHS auditorium, 7:30 p.m.; Pioneer Valley Cheerleading Championships at Ludlow H.S., 7:00 p.m.

## Local Students On RPI's Dean's List

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has announced the names of the following local students who made the Institute's dean's list for the 1997 fall semester. The dean's list recognizes full-time students who maintain grade-point averages of 3.0 out of a possible 4.0 and have no grades below "C."

### \* From Feeding Hills:

**Pamela Marie Eaton**, a freshman majoring in environmental science; **Ryan D. Henderson**, a junior majoring in civil engineering; **Paul Daniel Lalli**, a freshman majoring in computer science; and **Richard Steven Skowrya**, a freshman majoring in engineering.

Founded in 1824, Rensselaer is the nation's oldest degree-granting technological university. "U.S. News & World Report" has consistently ranked Rensselaer among the top 50 "national" universities in the country, and has consistently listed its graduate engineering program among the top 15.

Rensselaer is an international leader in the development of new, interactive approaches to undergraduate education, and it attracts students from around the world for technology-oriented programs in five schools: Engineering, Science, Management, Architecture, and Humanities and Social Sciences.

Rensselaer is considered an international leader in a range of fields, including: electrical and computer engineering; robotics; industrial and applied mathematics; physics; chemistry; aeronautical engineering; materials engineering; lighting research; technical communication; and management and technology.

Rensselaer is an independent, coeducational, nonsectarian university with approximately 4,000 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students.

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## Feeding Hills Students Attain Honor Roll Status At MacDuffie

Three Feeding Hills area students were named to Honor Rolls at the end of the first trimester at The MacDuffie School.

Listed on the Maximum Honor Roll for maintaining an average of 92 or better for the first trimester was freshman Stefanie Goyette.

Named to the High Honor Roll for maintaining an average of 88 or better were senior Amy Eggleston and freshman Melody Serafino.

All are strong students with full academic schedules and many extracurricular activities: Amy is president of the Dance Ensemble, and Melody and Stefanie have both been involved in numerous theatrical productions at the school.

Stefanie lives on Maynard Street in Feeding Hills, Amy lives on Clover Hill Drive, and Melody lives on Pleasant Valley Road.

## Financial Aid Info & Resources Available At Rep. Keenan's Office

Financial aid information for college-bound students and their families is available at State Rep. Dan Keenan's district office. Resources and information that may be obtained include a Financial Aid Packet from the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA), the 1997-1998 Admissions and Financial Aid at Independent Colleges in Massachusetts Handbook, and the New England Regional Student Program guide.

Please contact Rep. Keenan's district office, 786-4545, to obtain copies of the financial aid resources. Anyone with questions regarding the financial aid process may call MEFA at (617) 261-9760.

**ADVERTISER NEWS**

*Hollywood Productions*



*Miss Agawam Pageant*



1997 Pageant Winners

### 11th Annual Miss Agawam Beauty Pageant & Talent Competition

Lori Andruss Boyle, Director

### Miss Agawam 1998

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- \* **Tuesday** brings "buy one, get one free" on color enlargements from same 35 mm neg. (5x7, 8x10, 8x12, 11x14 only).
- \* On **Wednesday**, you buy one reprint and get the second one free from the same 35 mm or 110 mm negative (color only).
- \* On **Fridays**, when you bring in a roll of 24 exp./36 exp. to be developed, you may receive a free 5x7 from your roll (35 mm/color/one-hour service only!).

*This Offer Ends March 19, 1998!*

*We also sell frames, matts, and do passport pictures on the premises.*



## Scout Pack 77 Is Keeping Busy During Month Of January

January was a busy month for St. John's Pack 77, which started out with a weekend of winter camping at Moses Scout Reservation.

A pack meeting with a theme of "Genius Night" displayed projects made by the dens along with a mad scientist skit.

Pack 77 was the Springfield Civic Center on Friday, January 23rd, to watch the Falcons battle the Hartford Wolf Pack.

The month will end with the Yukon Derby on January 31st.

The Pack is now getting ready for its Blue and Gold Banquet on February 8th, celebrating Akela's birthday with a Mardi Gras theme.

The February CLIP meeting will be on Tuesday, February 3rd, at 7:30 p.m. in the church hall foyer. A representative from each den is encouraged to attend.

A "thank you" to everyone who helped make our recent candy bar fundraiser a great success.

## James Clark Students Are Raising Funds For Various Causes

During the months of November and December, James Clark students collected canned food items and decorated a mitten tree for their continuing theme of school and community spirit.

During January, Campbell labels have been collected to donate to Shriners Hospital.

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Bargain Book fundraiser; the students look super in their James Clark t-shirts.

On Wednesday, January 28th, the student council held its second popcorn sale to raise funds for recess materials and library materials.

James Clark is continuing to collect General Mills box tops; Hershey, Hefty, and Kodak UPC codes; and earning Big Y education points.

Our next PTO meeting is Tuesday, February 10th, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 11. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend, as everyone's input is counted.

## Agawam And Feeding Hills Residents Are On STCC's Dean's List

Area residents who have been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 1997 semester at Springfield Technical Community College have been announced by Vice President for Enrollment/Management/Student Affairs Ray Di Pasquale.

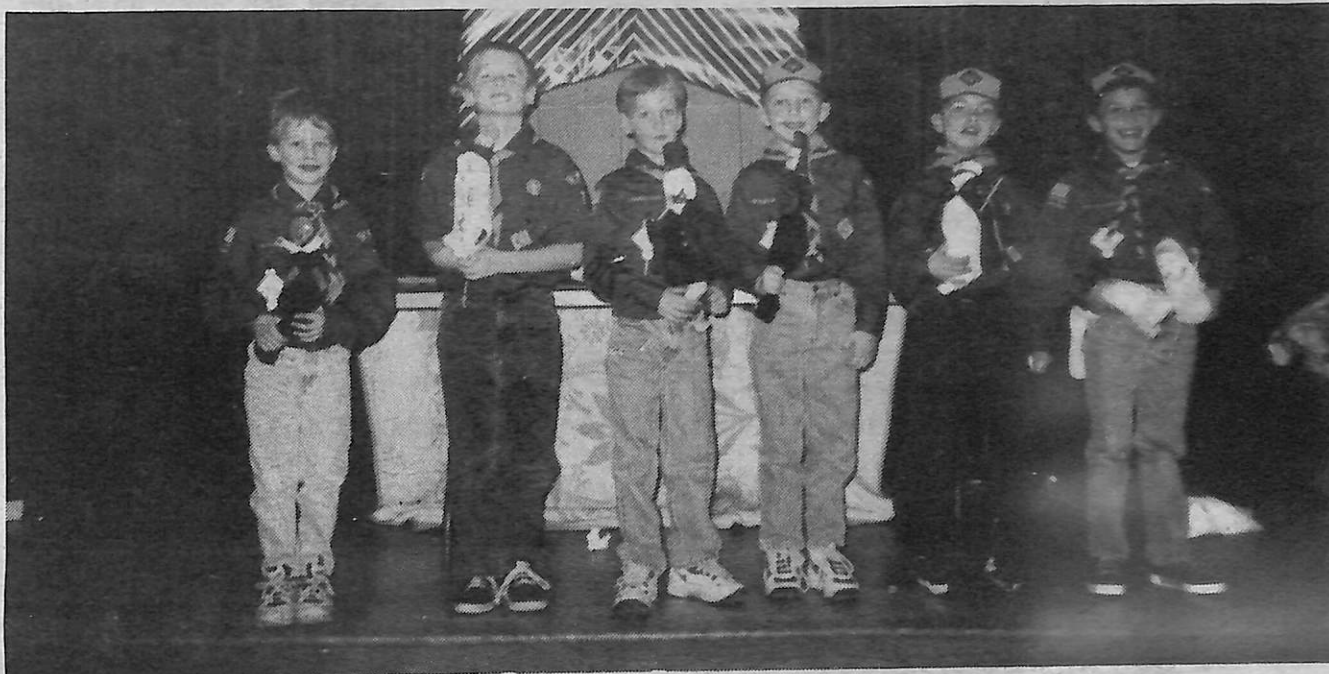
**Agawam residents** named to the Dean's List are Viktor Adzhigirey, Karen Book, Ann Fluet, Andrea LeBlanc, Phonda Marchetti, John Mustain, Brenda Ober, Paula Riel, Danielle Roy, and Deborah Struck.

**Feeding Hills residents** named to the Dean's List are Lori Andruss-Boyle, Kathleen Burns, Gary Jock, Michael Karaskiewicz, Judith Lovotti, Anthony Russo, and Gabriela Washburn.

Springfield Technical Community College offers 44 associate degree programs with 26 options and 29 certificate programs, in the areas of business, health/human services/nursing, engineering and science transfer, engineering technologies, and liberal arts and sciences.



**DEN 7 OF ST. JOHN'S PACK 77** put on a mini-circus for their November meeting and also for the residents at Country Estates. Standing: Drew Campbell (strongman), Ryan Sullivan (lion tamer), Brett Barker (clown), Sean Walsh (ringmaster), and Den Leader Marsha Barker (clown). Seated: Nick Sliech (clown), Gary Theroux (lion), and Nick Abraham (snake charmer). Missing from photo: Brenton Schivley (tightrope walker).



**SCOUTS FROM DEN 8 OF PACK 77** display their handmade puppets which were used for their "big top" circus skit at the November Pack Meeting. From left to right: Alex Schwein, Kris Ruehl, Danny Anderson, Dan Geoffrin, Austin Santalini, and Joshua Blood.

## Agawam Students On Fitchburg Dean's List

President Michael P. Riccards of Fitchburg State College has announced that Agawam residents Lynn A. Agradides and Kevin D. Gillette were among students named to the Dean's List for the fall semester.

A student is placed on the Dean's List for the

semester if an average grade of 3.20 or better is attained, and the student is attending the college full-time.

Fitchburg State College enrolls 6,000 day and evening students in 20 academic major. The college was established in 1894.

## Kevin King Receives Honors At Vermont Tech.

Area resident Kevin A. King was among 136 students to receive honors during the fall semester at Vermont Technical College, according to registrar Michael Dempsey.

To earn honors, a student must earn a quality

point average of between 3.0 and 3.4. Students must be carrying at least 12 credits during the semester to qualify.

King is an architectural and building engineering technology major.

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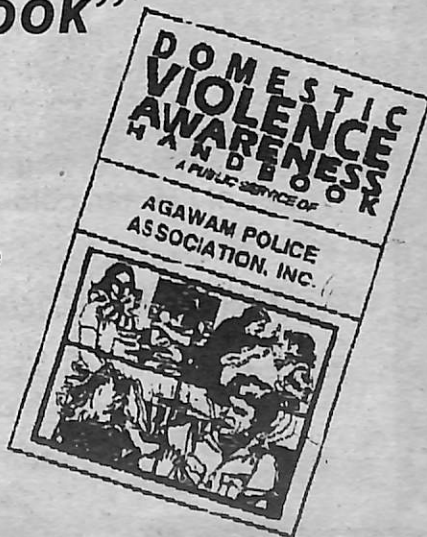
## "Domestic Violence Awareness Handbook"

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## Congratulations, D.A.R.E. Graduates!!!



LAST FRIDAY, JANUARY 23RD, Middle School students graduated from the D.A.R.E. program. IN TOP PHOTO: Sergeant Steven Draghetti and Officer Karen Langevin of the Agawam Police Department with D.A.R.E. students Amanda Borden, Kyle Lucchesi, and Juel Harris. IN PHOTO BELOW: Sergeant Draghetti, Officer Langevin, and State Representative Dan Keenan with D.A.R.E. students Zachary Laponese and Sophia Nasti. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



OFFICER KAREN LANGEVIN with Agawam "Peer Leadership" counselors who help with the D.A.R.E. program: Jenn Smist, Jennifer McGuire, and Michele Ingalls. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

*You turn  
our pages  
each week  
for all  
the home-  
town news...  
AAN!!!*

## Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, February 2nd:** Steamed frankfort in roll, Boston baked beans, seasoned green beans, sliced apples, milk.

**Tuesday, February 3rd:** Oven-baked chicken nuggets, honey or mayonnaise, steamed rice, tossed garden salad with dressing, bread and butter, peach crisp, milk.

**Wednesday, February 4th:** Hamburg in roll, buttered seven-minute cabbage, potato puffs with catsup, jello with topping, milk.

**Thursday, February 5th:** Taco boat with cheese topping, seasoned niblet corn, rosy applesauce, white cake with mocha icing, milk.

**Friday, February 6th:** Roast turkey with gravy on whipped potatoes, seasoned carrots, bread and butter, ice cream cup, milk.

## WNEC's School Of Law Schedules 'Community Outreach'

Western New England College School of Law will host a community outreach event Saturday, February 7th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for high school and college students who want to learn about the legal profession.

The event, titled "Reaching for Diversity: A Conference for Minorities Interested in Law," is sponsored by the Law School Admission Council, the Multi-Cultural Law Students Association, and the Office of Admissions at Western New England College School of Law.

The conference, including lunch, is free. Pre-registration is preferred. Call (413) 782-1406.

Events for the day will include a keynote address, a panel presentation by law professors, and a panel discussion with current lawyers, and law students.

Western New England College is a private, comprehensive, coeducational institution located on a 185-acre suburban campus in Springfield, with an additional 19 sites throughout the Commonwealth. The College serves its 4,500 students with undergraduate programs in its Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, and Engineering, and graduate programs in its Schools of Business, Engineering, and Law.

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## Sports

Maloni Sits Out With Sprained Ankle...

# Round I Easy Walk For Falcons, 54-28 Before Over 1,000 Fans

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Sometimes hype doesn't mean much. Sometimes anticipation falls flat on its kisser. Sometimes the best excuse is no excuse. All three of the above could apply to the Agawam High girls' 54-28 loss to Minnechaug Regional on Monday night.

Over 1,000 basketball nuts jammed into the Minnechaug gym for this one. It was a mix of Brownie faithful and many more Falcon fanatics. While the home folks had plenty to cheer about, the visitors, for the most part, sat on their hands, which had to soften up the steel torture racks that pass for seats at the Falcon gym.

Speaking of torture, the Agawam (10-1) loss was more like a flogging. The towering 9-1 Falcons not only played in-your-shirt defense, they played a form of it rarely seen in these parts - that of the denial variety, especially in the paint. "Go ahead. You keep stats. How many points did we get from any post-up position?" Brownie Coach Lou Conte said after the scalps had been taken. "Not many, I will bet," he added.

Not many is right. For the game, the club went 7-30 from the field. Most of them were from downtown, which is also where they left their vaunted transition game.

The Brownies, known for their high octane offense, had no tiger in their tank in this one. We might add that one of the best players in Western Mass., 5'9" Barbara Maloni, sat out the festivities with a sprung (not sprained - sprung) ankle, suffered on Saturday. Maloni averages almost 20 points a game and is Agawam's go-to gal. "No, we won't offer that as an excuse," Conte stressed. "Tonight, even with her, I don't think we could have won."

### Falcons Never Trailed

Minnechaug, living up to all its reviews, never trailed. They started out with a Jillian Danker steal and a hoop with 1:30 gone. The great All-American would end up with 24 points (9-16, including a trio of 3's, 3-4 fts, 12 rebs [3 off, 9 def], 5 steals, 1 block). The 6'1" Danker, along with the other Minnechaug trees (6'4" Maureen Leahy and 6'1" Chrissy Girotti) constantly doubled up on the Agawam post-up people. It was frustrating, at least for the faithful, to watch such skilled and well planned 'D' that was tailor-made for Maloni's absence.

With 3:10 gone, Agawam had five turnovers. The Falcons grabbed six points because of them. The

Brownies would end up with 24 cough-ups for the game. The fact that the Falcons only enjoyed a total of eight points as a result was the Agawam defense, which had the speed to retreat and set up.

At the 8:34 mark, Danker had seven points, all in the paint. She was being covered by point guard Kristen Patterson, a full seven inches shorter.

When center Pia Bertone-Gross and forward Melissa Cote, along with Amber Conte, challenged her, she simply drifted into three-point land, where she sank two straight three's. Another trey by guard Christal Murphy saw the Falcons fly out to a 22-9 lead with 4:13 left in the half. At that point, Agawam was shooting 3-10 from the field. Minnechaug countered at 9-16.

The half ended with the Falcons in complete control, 28-17. They put it up only 20 times, but canned 12 of those field goal tries, mostly in the paint. They were only 1-5 from the line and had eight turnovers. But a good paint job will cover all imperfections.

Agawam was 5-16. They were 5-8 from the line and had 11 turnovers. It was bad. If you can believe it, things got worse in the second half. The only bright spot was the play of the best pure point guard in Western Mass. - Patterson. She couldn't do it all. It was the Falcons' night. But she tried. Assistant varsity Coach Deb Lickley has said so many times of Kristen, "She hates losing so much."

The Falcons started out the second half with a three. With two minutes gone in the half, it was obvious the Brownies' inside game was also gone. They would only have two field goals out of 14 attempts.

### Patterson Drives The Lane

Patterson tried to drive the lane. She was successful, getting mugged four times and converting eight free throws into seven points. She settled into the low hole on the 2-3 zone Conte conjured up because Danker was unstoppable. Patterson banged with the best of them down there. She has always been proud of her boardwork. She would have six on the evening. Of Agawam's 14 second-half shots, Patterson would sink one. Amber Conte had the other one (she also had a pair of three-pointers).

After it was all over and the Brownies came out of the lockerroom, one and all looked like they'd

just gone to their best friend's funeral. We had a comment for the missing gunslinger, Maloni, who simply sat and watched. We told her that if an injury and a loss had to happen, it was better now than later.

### A Couple Dates Down The Road

These two excellent teams have a couple of dates down the road. Maloni, who is irrepressible, simply said this, "I know." You had to think that she was already planning how to clip the Falcons' wings when they meet in their regular season finale, February 19th at Agawam and then again when they will probably meet in the Western Mass. championship game.

After a 10-game win streak, Agawam went to 10-1. Minnechaug, which has lost only once this year, down in Florida, goes to 9-1.

**AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS:** PATTERSON - 16 points (3-9 fgs), 10-12 fts, 6 rebs (2 off, 4 def), 1 steal; CONTE - 8 points (3-7), including 2 3's, 0-1 fts; SHANNON - 3 (1-2), 1-2 fts; COTE - 1 point (0-8), 1-2 fts, 7 def rebs, 1 steal; BERTONE-GROSS - (0-3), 2 rebs (1 off, 1 def), 1 steal; TIERNEY - (0-1), 1 off reb; BENTON - (0-1); BUCALO (0-0), 0-1 fts; HADDEN - (0-0), 2 steals.

**AGAWAM TEAM STATS:** fgs - 7-30 plus two 3's (23 percent), 12-18 fts, 17 rebounds (4 off, 13 def), 24 turnovers, 8 points allowed off turnovers.

**MINNECHAUG TEAM STATS:** fgs 21-42, including seven 3's (50 percent), 5-12 fts, 27 rebounds (7 off, 20 def), 16 turnovers, 4 points allowed off turnovers.

**BROWNIE NOTES:** Patterson needed 30 points going in to reach 1,000 for her career. She still needs 14. "We checked her totals twice. It is 30 here tonight," Coach Lickley said. Another note must be worth mentioning; Maloni needs 89 to get the grand. This might have been one of Conte's worst losses in his 12-year career, but it won't make any difference. At this writing, they'll be back at practice. That is one of the reasons they are as good as they are. Losses, even tough ones, are somewhat relegated to the past.

Observers will say, and perhaps rightly so, that once Danker leaves, Minnechaug will sink into the middle of the pack of Western Mass. girls' hoop. She took over this game, like she has so many others. She is truly a huge star. But Agawam is built on many stars. That's why Agawam girls' hoop, despite the occasional beating, has endured.

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## Boys' Basketball...

# Agawam's Woes Continue, Thanks To Cathedral

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' basketball team got rolled over last Saturday, 70-44, by Springfield Cathedral, the defending Western Mass champs. It was the Brownies' fifth loss in a row.

Cathedral led 15-8 with six minutes gone in the first half. They were 7-9 from the floor. Agawam was struggling at 2-6.

Both teams were in a man-to-man defense. Agawam has a good lineup. Jay Hanscom and Bryan O'Quinn are a good one/two combination. Dave Strole and Mark Pedraza are two fine forwards. Ryan White is a good center. What they don't have is a real power forward. Cathedral, always a force in Western Mass hoop, does. Mike Martin (6'5") fills the bill. He scored 10 points on 3-5 shooting. Two field goals were of the three-point variety. He scored the first Cathedral points. He also had 12 boards (six and six) plus two blocks and a steal. Remember, he is only a sophomore. Remember, he is from Agawam.

After it was over, he sat quietly in the Panthers' lockerroom. "Yeah, I liked beating them (the Brownies). I have a lot of friends on that team."

Cathedral pressed in this one. They were up 27-15 with 4:20 left. They had a 42-20 lead at the half. The Panthers had good ball movement throughout. Agawam's offense went away at the 11:40 mark. There were no Agawam shooters. They were 1-6 at 10:28. Cathedral was 5-11. It ended 70-44, Cathedral.

## "Ski Privilege Book" Is Available From Lung Assoc.

Skiers can fight asthma while they have fun skiing downhill with the **Ski Privilege Book**, available from the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts.

The Ski Privilege Book offers **free or reduced-price skiing** at nine downhill ski areas in Western Massachusetts.

All proceeds from the Ski Privilege Book benefit the community programs of the American Lung Association, including asthma education, tobacco prevention programs, and clean air programs. As asthma and lung disease prevalence rates continue to rise, the demand for the American Lung Association's services also continues to rise. Every year thousands of people are reached through the American Lung Association's educational programs.

The 1997-98 Ski Privilege Book participating areas are: *Jiminy Peak Resort; Mt. Tom Ski Area; Butternut Ski Area; Berkshire East Ski Area; Catamount Ski Area; Blandford Ski Area; Otis Ridge Ski Area; Bousquet Ski Area; Wachusett Mountain Ski Area.*

The Ski Privilege Book is available for \$30 per book. Please call the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA to order or for more information.

## New England Youth Sports Offers Help With World Wide Web

Local Youth Sports leagues now have an opportunity to improve communications, attract new players, and promote the league **FREE OF CHARGE.**

*New England Youth Sports* offers **free** web page construction, maintenance, supporting graphics, and hosting on the World Wide Web to every youth league within this region.

The league responsibility is simple. Current materials such as schedules, standings, scores, announcements, league colors, and more are submitted as needed. The site can be found at: [www.neyouthsports.com](http://www.neyouthsports.com).

For details, contact Dave at 781-331-7898, New England Youth Sports, 775 Pleasant St., Suite 9, Weymouth, MA 02189.

This offer is extended until September 1, 1998.

## 1997-98 Freshman Boys' Basketball Team...



BACK ROW: Travis Cowles, Josh Ducharme, Greg Boisvert, Lou Conte, Mike Thomas, Adam Ellsworth, and Coach Dave Stratton. FRONT ROW: A.J. Martucci, Travis Reed, Mike Brunelle, Shawn Mercadante, Jim Evans, and Matt Dion. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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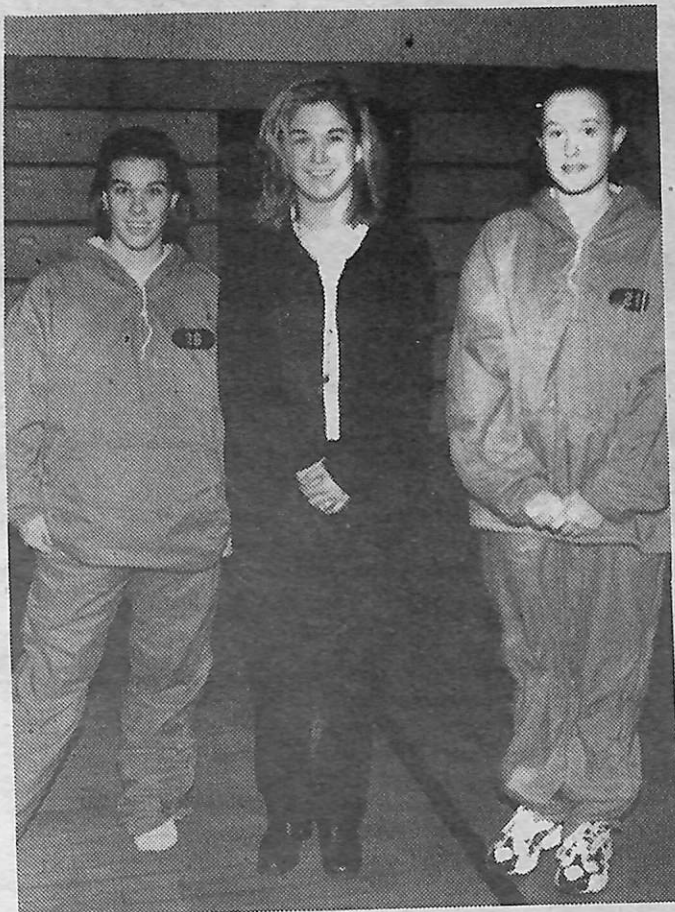
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## In The "Swim" Of Things For AHS...



IN LEFT PHOTO: Girls' swimming Coach Kim Scofield with seniors Kelly Robinson and Darcy Bates. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Boys' swim Coach Chris Johnson with team members Charlie Roberts (captain), Matt Francis, Nathan Adamski, and Brendan Kilrain (captain). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

*Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!*

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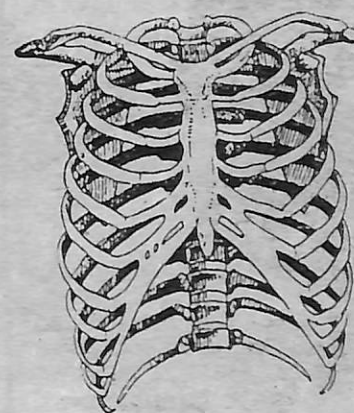
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## Attention Runners: Try Forest Park Series

Ask any runner what makes training over the winter so difficult and the answer most commonly given might surprise you.

It is not the raw, rainy days, or the infamous Nor'easters that oftentimes leave New England buried in snow and shivering from bitter cold temperatures for days afterwards.

Instead the answer lies simply in the fact that the area lacks organized, competitive road races during the winter months, which for many, including diehards, makes it extremely difficult to maintain the focus and motivation needed to endure and train throughout the winter months.

However, there is one group in the region which has been combating this problem for a number of years now, but due to the lack of mass advertising, has made it one of the area's best-kept secret for runners looking to use area road races to sustain the level of competitiveness achieved during the spring and summer months.

In conjunction with Friendly's Restaurant, Stage West, and the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, The Greater Springfield Harriers running club will once again hold its annual Snowstorm Classics.

The Snowstorm Classics, held every Saturday in Springfield's Forest Park, are a series of road races which alternate weekly between a 5,000 meter and 10,000 meter USATF certified course.

What makes these races unique, however, is the fact that not a single race has been cancelled during the 17-year history of the Snowstorm Classics, regardless of the weather or course conditions.

Although the courses are ideal for those looking for both low-key competition and moderately hard training runs, this weekly series also attracts many who are just looking for the opportunity to meet other area runners and enjoy the sights and sounds that Forest Park has to offer.

In addition, at the conclusion of each race, a raffle is held and all registered runners are given the chance to win a variety of prizes, including tickets to Stage West, and the Springfield Symphony Orchestra.

Registration is \$3 and begins at 9:30 a.m. each Saturday near the Skate House by Porter Lake. Races begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. and those looking for more information are asked to call (413) 734-0955.

## 4H Horse Club Seeks Trophies For 2nd Annual Show

The Mane-i-acs 4H Horse Club is asking the public's help in obtaining trophies for its second annual horse show.

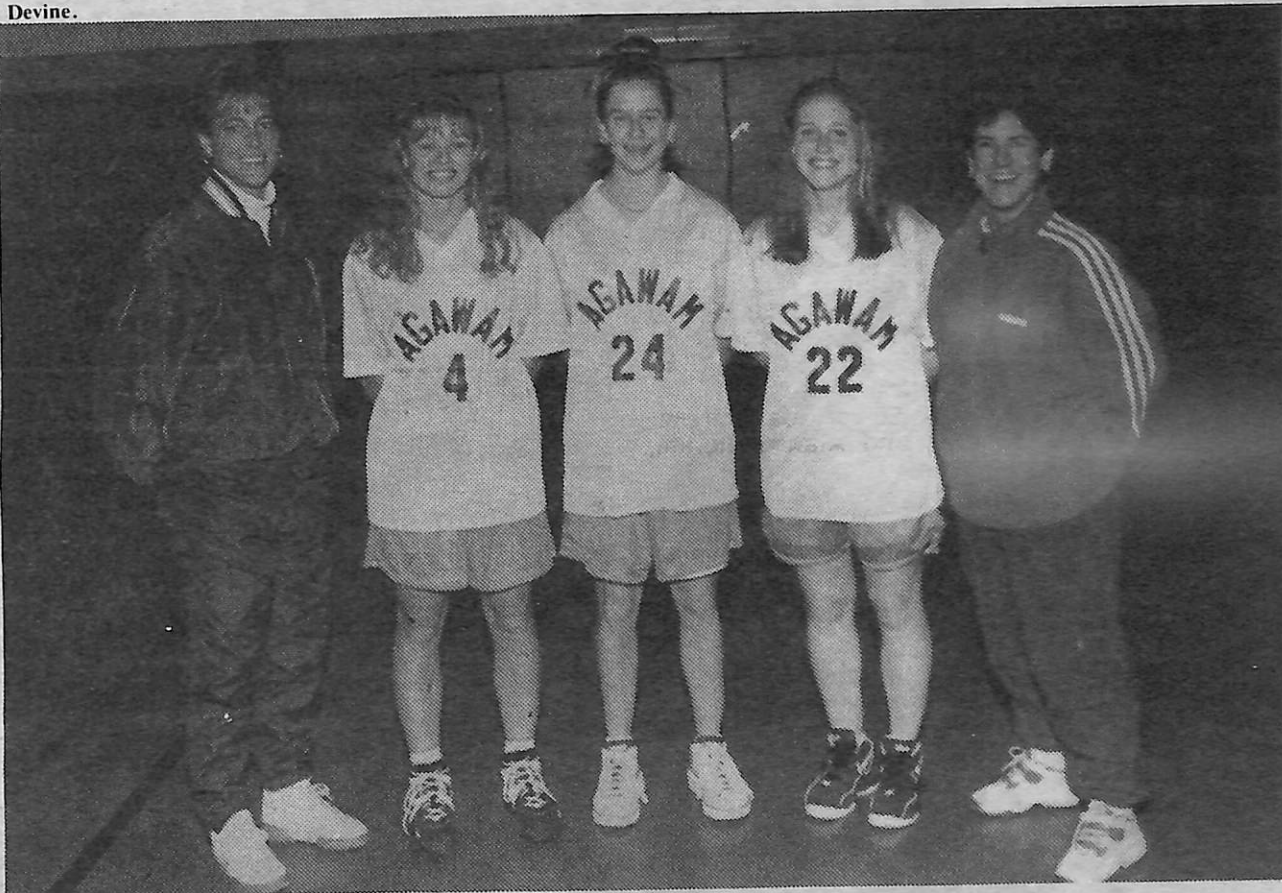
The club is seeking used horse activity trophies that are no longer wanted or needed and may be cluttering your cellar. They will be refurbished to use in the June horse show.

For further information or pick-up, please call Janet Pohlman at 569-5948 or Bernice Rueli at 789-1512.

## 1997-98 Freshman Girls' Basketball Team...



**STANDING:** Assistant Coach Lori Picard, Heather Newalu, Kara Barnes, Lisa Bienia, Jen Pease, Jen Bishop, and Coach Lynda Kunasek. **KNEELING:** Emily Norris, Jen Gensheimer, Danielle Bachini, Vanessa Planzo, Val Siedlik, and Jen Plamondon. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**LEADING THE FRESHMAN TEAM:** Assistant Coach Lori Picard, captains Emily Norris, Kara Barnes, Vanessa Planzo, and Coach Lynda Kunasek. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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## Agawam Piranhas Fall To Wilbraham Team, 234-206

The Agawam Piranhas swim team lost against the Wilbraham team by a score of 234-206 on January 17, 1998 at the Minnechaug Regional High School. The results included:

### Girls 8 & Under:

Taryn Dooley, first in 100 yard individual medley. Caitlin Hurley, second in 25-yard freestyle. Julie Gorman, first in 25-yard butterfly, first in 50-yard freestyle. Taryn Dooley, second in 25-yard backstroke. Caitlin Hurley, second in 25-yard breaststroke.

### Boys 8 & Under:

The team of Zachary Demers, Adam Deliefde, Anthony Lee, and Daniel Demers placed first in the 100-yard medley relay.

The team of Adam Deliefde, Daniel Demers, Zachary Demers, and Anthony Lee placed second in the 100-yard freestyle relay.

Anthony Lee, second in 25-yard freestyle. Zachary Demers, second in 50-yard freestyle. Adam Deliefde, first in 25-yard backstroke, second in 25-yard breaststroke.

### Girls 9-10:

The team of Danielle Poggi, Kelly Follis, Kaitlin Bond, and Tammy Gorman placed second in the 200-yard medley relay.

Danielle Poggi, third in 100-yard individual medley. The team of Kaitlin Bond, Danielle Poggi, Tammy Gorman, and Jessica Lalli placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Tammy Gorman, second in 50-yard freestyle. Jessica Lalli, second in 50-yard butterfly. Kelly Follis, third in 100-yard freestyle. Jessica Lalli, first in 50-yard backstroke.

### Boys 9-10:

The team of Erik Deliefde, Daniel Serna, Connor Dooley, and William Barker III placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Jeffrey Lagasse, first in 100-yard individual medley. The team of Daniel Serna, Connor Dooley, William Barker III, and Jeffrey Lagasse placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Erik Deliefde, first in 50-yard freestyle. Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Erik Deliefde, second in 50-yard butterfly. Daniel Serna, second, and Connor Dooley, third in 100-yard freestyle.

Anthony Ardolino, third in 50-yard backstroke. Anthony Ardolino, second, and Alan Gallerani, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

### Girls 11-12:

The team of Elizabeth Couture, Angela Vinton, Abriana Spagnoli, and Erin Milillo placed second in the 200-yard medley relay.

Brittany Theriaque, first, and Rebecca Carey, second in 200-yard individual medley.

Lindsay Carey, third in 200-yard freestyle. Angela Vinton, third in 50-yard freestyle. Katie Gorman, second, and Allison Morris, third in 50-yard butterfly. Katie Gorman, third in 100-yard freestyle.

Brittany Theriaque, first, and Abriana Spagnoli, third in 50-yard backstroke. Rebecca Carey, third in 50-yard breaststroke. The team of Katie Gorman, Allison Morris, Lindsay Carey, and Brittany Theriaque placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

### Boys 11-12:

The team of Daniel Adamski, Thomas Gorman, Paul Lagasse, and Kyle Sullivan placed second in the 200-yard medley relay; and the team of Michael Lalli, Kyle Henry, David Torrey, and Matthew Gendron placed third.

Kyle Sullivan, first, and Thomas Gorman, second in 200-yard individual medley. Phillip Prouty, second, and Kyle Henry, third in 200-yard freestyle. Daniel Adamski, first, and Paul Lagasse, second in 50-yard freestyle. Kyle Sullivan, first, and Paul Lagasse, second in 50-yard butterfly.

Michael Lalli, third in 100-yard freestyle. Daniel Adamski, first, and Matthew Gendron, third in 50-yard backstroke. Thomas Gorman, third in 50-yard breaststroke. The team of Matthew Gendron, David Torrey, Kyle Henry, and Michael Lalli placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

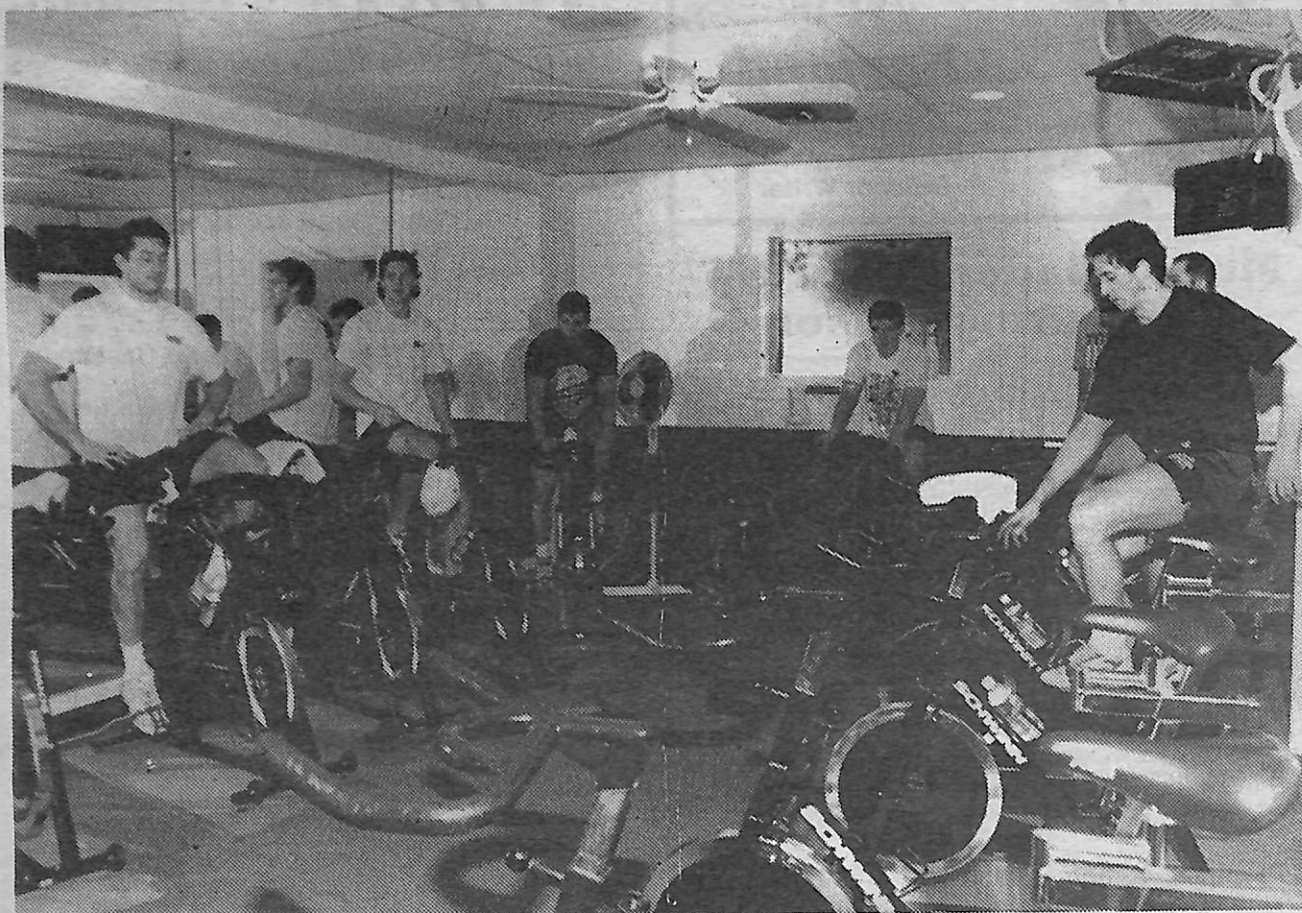
### Girls 13-14:

The team of Daveen Macsata, Amanda Boissonneault, Kimberly Chmura, and Kyleigh Egan placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

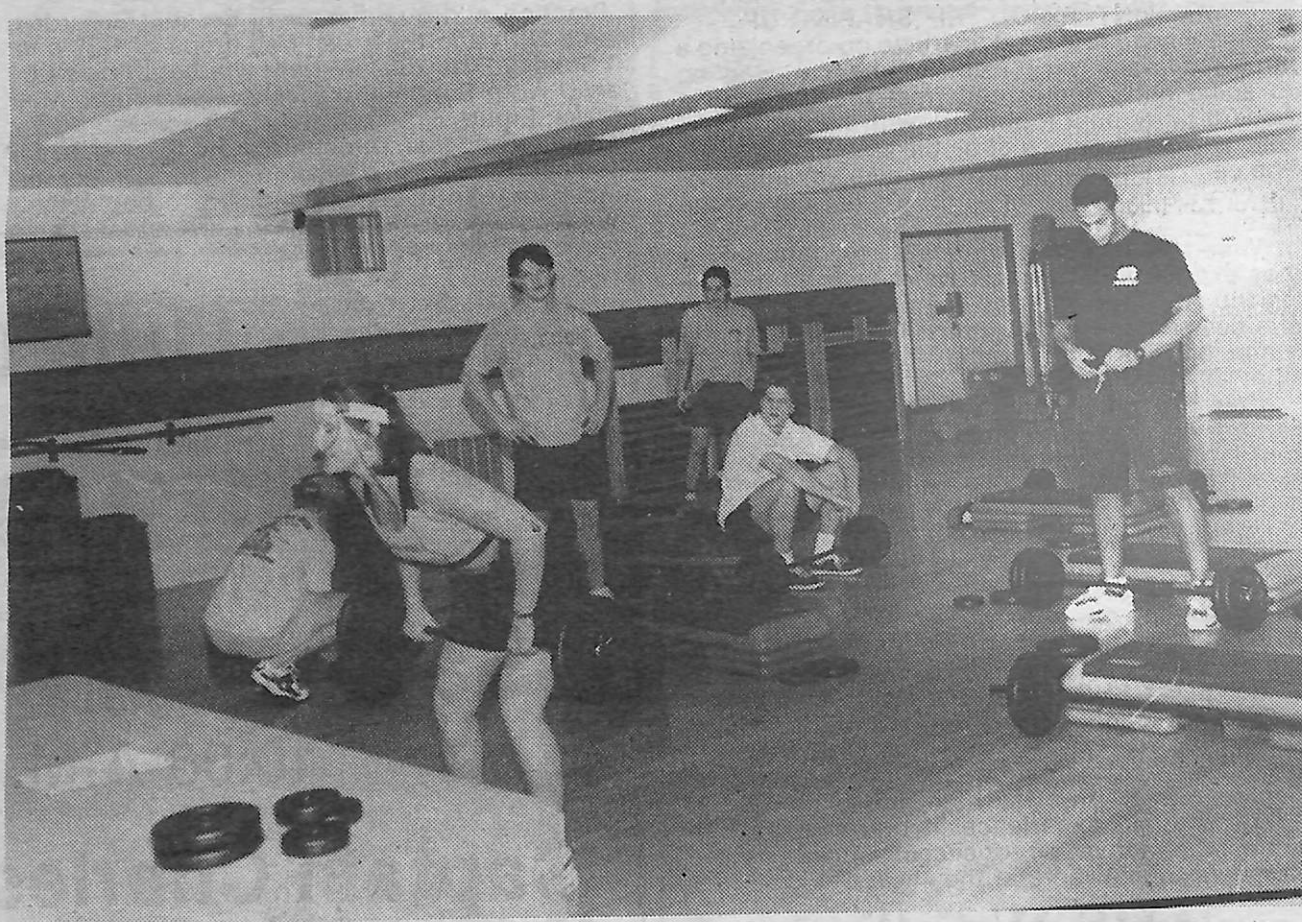
Renee Couture, first in 200-yard individual medley. Daveen Macsata, second, and Kristine Archambault, third in 200-yard freestyle. Kyleigh Egan, first, and Daveen Macsata, second in 50-yard freestyle. Kimberly Chmura, first in 100-yard butterfly. Renee Couture, first, and Kristine Archambault, second in 100-yard freestyle. Kimberly Chmura, first, and Amanda Boissonneault, second in 100-yard backstroke.

Amanda Boissonneault, first in 100-yard breaststroke. The team of Renee Couture, Kristine Archambault, Kyleigh Egan, and Daveen Macsata placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

## “Falcons” Feeling Fit At Fitness First...



TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE PHYSICALLY READY for their opponents, members of the Springfield Falcons hockey team (pictured above and below) regularly work out at Fitness First Racquet and Fitness Center, located at 60 North Westfield Street in Feeding Hills Center. In order to keep their “wings” in top condition, the Falcons partake of Fitness First’s free weights, exercise bikes, and aerobics program. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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## Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis  
Outdoor Writer

### Muzzleloaders Rack Up 669 During Season

The Massachusetts primitive firearms season, which ended on Saturday, December 20, 1997, showed that 669 deer had been taken. A telephone survey was used to collect the tally, which should increase slightly when all of the official check stations finalize their reports.

The tally breaks down as follows:

**WESTERN DISTRICT:** 61 bucks, 70 does — 131 total.

**CONN. VALLEY DISTRICT:** 72 bucks, 110 does — 182 total.

**CENTRAL DISTRICT:** 61 bucks, 126 does — 187 total.

**SOUTHEAST DISTRICT:** 62 bucks, 55 does — 117 total.

**NORTHEAST DISTRICT:** 20 bucks, 32 does — 52 total.

**TOTAL FOR ALL THE DISTRICTS:** 276 bucks, 393 does — 669 grand total.

The total combined harvest for all seasons stands at 9,834. There is a good chance that the tally will exceed 10,000 when all of the data is collected from all of the more than 100 check stations.

#### ATTENTION CONNECTICUT SPORTSMEN

The Connecticut D.E.P. has had contract difficulties in preparation of the 1998 licenses. The 1997 licenses will be honored through the end of January of this year.

The new licenses should be available shortly.

#### AAN WINTER COD TRIP SHAPING UP

Response to last week's article on organizing a winter cod fishing trip was encouraging. Hauling up some hefty winter cod from the decks of a modern party boat (complete with heated cabin, rails, and seats) may just be the cure. Those of us who can't wait until spring, can take advantage of the chance to get together for a great day on the water.

While talking to old friends a few weeks ago, they expressed their excitement over an upcoming trip on the Lady Francis. The "comfort index" of a heated boat, seats, and rails should take the winter edge off of an otherwise "frosty" excursion.

After a lengthy discussion, we decided that perhaps a group trip might help add to Agawam's sense of community as well as adding to the dwindling supply in the freezer. Among fishermen, there are no strangers... only friends that we have not yet met.

If you or someone you know could use a day on the water to ease those wintertime blues, have them contact me at The AAN or at my home (413-789-1343). If sufficient interest is shown, we will book a trip for late February or early March.

#### BOAT SHOW A MID-WINTER HIT!

The boat show at The Big E's Better Living Center was a welcome respite from the mid-winter doldrums. Approximately 300 boats were on display from all over Southern New England.

It was a fun experience. If one ever needed some extra motivation for success, it was parked on display somewhere at the show.

### AHS Wrestling Booster Club To Sponsor Dance

The Agawam High School Wrestling Booster Club will be sponsoring a dance at the Polish American Club, 139 Southwick St., Agawam, Saturday, February 7th from 7:30 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

Tom Melbourne will be the DJ and a cash bar will be available. Proceeds from the dance will be used for wrestler scholarships and awards.

To obtain tickets, call Tim Murphy (786-9619), Deb Martino (786-7014), or Pam Quirk (789-3274). Tickets will be available at the door for a cost of \$7. Bring your own snacks.

PIRANHAS - from Page 35...

#### Boys 13-14:

Nathan Adamski, first in 200-yard freestyle. Michael Follis, second, and Jason St. George, third in 50-yard freestyle. Jason St. George, second in 100-yard freestyle. Nathan Adamski, second in 100-yard backstroke. Michael Follis, second in 100-yard breaststroke.

## Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics Hosts A Variety Of Competitors At Its Annual Meet

Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics was the host for gyms as close as Southwick to as far away as Millbury as it held its annual meet.

In the compulsory level 5, Mia Yacteen led the way for the host club with a 32.30 all around. Mia Saimeri and Rebecca Brown also broke the 30.00 barrier with scores of 30.10 and 30.40, respectively.

Other level 5 scores of note were Jamie Basilone, 25.50; Lauren Azevedo, 29.50; Marissa Cheverier, 25.60; Julie Conway, 27.80; Andera Hurwitz, 29.20; Katelyn Lavoie, 25.10; and Cassandra Smolkowicz, 28.70.

Level 6 compulsory saw Jen Stack take first all around with a 33.35. In the seven-nine age group, Caitlin Ranstrom scored 30.80 and Abbey Hazen a 27.20. The 10-11 age group saw Sharon Kurpaska and Rachel Humphrey lead the way with 30.30's, Sara Kantany, 30.20; Rachel Zmuda, 29.30; and Karis Gale, 28.85. The 12-13 age group had Kari Sullivan with a 31.80 and Joy Higley a 30.75.

Optional gymnasts competed in the second session with level 7 Kristen Breitenbach taking the nine-10 age group all around with a 30.45. In the 14-plus group, Elizabeth Clark earned a 32.90 for third and Rebekah Humphrey took honors with a 35.05 that included a 9.25 on vault and a floor routine performed to "Rhapsody on the Theme of Paganini" that scored a 9.15.

Level eight, 11-12 age group saw the Daggett girls take the top three places with Mary Kate Za-

jac third with a 31.00, Karen Cristopherson's 34.25 second, and Leigha Hancock taking the Gold with a 35.05, which included a 9.45 on floor performed to "Rock Around the Clock."

The 13-14 age group also had stellar performances from Emily Sharp (31.90), Whitney Quist (31.65), and Lisa DiRosa (30.90). Devon Ehret, whose interpretation of "The Russian Sailor's Dance" earned her a first place on floor with a 9.35, also took the Gold in the all around with a 35.45. Andrea Babbini swept second place with a 35.35 that included a 9.05 on vault and a 9.05 on bars.

Level 9, Junior A division gymnast Bri Lancour swept all events with a 34.80 all around. In Junior B, Lissa Bramley's 32.70 took second and Sarah Liebowitz grabbed the top spot with a 35.40 that included a 9.00 on vault and a 9.10 on floor performed to "Whistle Hora."

Level 10 gymnast Jamie Scott-Smith's 9.25 on vault and a 9.10 on floor (Jesus Christ Superstar) earned her a 35.85 all around victory. In Junior B, level 10, Michele Germano and Kadee Bramley "raised the roof" as scores of 36.55 and 35.95 took Gold and Silver.

Meet highs on all events were attained by these two stellar gymnasts. Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics would like to thank the Booster Club and all the gymnasts, visiting clubs, and guests for making this year's event a success.

## Riverside Speedway Announces First Race Of 1998 Will Be On March 29th

Riverside Park Speedway, celebrating its 50th year of racing, will host the season opening race for the NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour March 29th with the PEPSI 200.

Practice and qualifying will be held Saturday, March 28th and the green flag drops at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. The 200-lap event will be followed by Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stocks, Sportsman, Mini Stocks, Figure 8, and Super Stock action.

Joe Lewandoski, Director of Auto Racing, is excited about the 1998 campaign and feels "very fortunate that NASCAR has decided to begin their season here at Riverside." Lewandoski also

points out that Riverside will "open and close racing in New England in 1998." The PEPSI 200 is the first stock car race in New England in 1998.

Last year's race, a 150-lap affair, was won by longtime Riverside favorite Reggie Ruggiero. Ruggiero is optimistic about this year's race. "The guys really know how to set up a car for this track," said Ruggiero. "Anything besides another win would be a disappointment." Former Riverside champion Dan Avery finished second, followed by 1997 Tour Champion Mike Stefanik.

For more information, contact Jeremy Davidson at (800) 370-7488 or (413) 786-9300, ext. 3341.

## Agawam Little League Baseball Spring Sign-Ups

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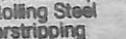
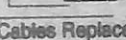
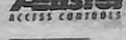
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**Sanding**

**Commercial—Residential**

**George Farina**

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Now That  
The Snow  
Is Here!



Also Firewood **786-5658**





## Classifieds

### SERVICES

**CARPENTRY SERVICES:** Additions & remodeling, family rooms, cellars, kitchens & baths, Florida rooms & screen porches, decks & replacement windows, wood siding & sheds. 25 yrs. exp. Fully insured & references. No job too small. Call George Bernier, 786-8452.

**BILL SPEAR FORESTRY SERVICES:** Complete tree removal, trimming. Land cleared. Senior citizen discount. FREE ESTIMATES. Fully insured. Call 786-5081.

**EXCELLENT CARPENTRY:** Small jobs to custom homes. Honest work at today's prices. Free estimates; senior citizen discounts. Stephen Gould, 786-6887.

#### DAVID'S WINDOW CLEANING AND JANITORIAL

Mother's Little Helper! Floors waxed, rugs shampooed, walls washed. Commercial and residential. Call Paul Ferrarini, (413) 786-4436.

**PAUL'S TREE SERVICE:** Removal, pruning, planting, stump grinding, lot clearing, trimming hedges, cabling and bracing, lightning protection. Neat clean-up (no mess left). Call Paul Cocchi, 733-7520.

**NORTHEAST BUILDERS:** Custom homes & remodeling (since 1975). Fully insured & licensed. Rick Pfeiffer, 4 Lenox St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Reg. No. 116963; Const. Sup. No. 000450. (413) 789-1150.

**CLOVER CONSTRUCTION & HOME IMPROVEMENT OF AGAWAM:** Guido Winter. Garages, sheds, decks, general repair, concrete. Free estimate. (413) 821-0139. Pager number—290-2990.

**VERMETTE AUTO BODY:** Complete collision service. 19 years of customer satisfaction. We work with all insurance companies. 787 Silver Street, Agawam, 786-8226. (MA. REG. NO. 1842.)

**GARAGE AND CELLAR CLEAN UP:** Call 789-1712 for free est. Snowplowing. Hall Home and Office Care.

**LYMAN CUSTOM REMODELING:** Kitchens, bathrooms, additions, hatches, corner cabinets, and other specialty furniture. High quality workmanship. Free estimates, fully insured. Michael G. Lyman, 63 Columbia Dr., Feeding Hills, 789-3032. License number 048883.

**GEORGE FARINA SNOW PLOWING:** Sanding — commercial & residential. Also firewood. Call us now that the snow is here! George Farina, 786-5658.

**EAGLE EYE CARPENTRY:** General contractor. For a full line of construction (residential & commercial). Very fine work and fair estimates. Paul Therrien, Owner, 163 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. (413) 789-0524.

**BOB LONGO CONSTRUCTION:** 22 years specializing in additions. Free custom design. Fully insured, free estimates. In Agawam, 789-0758.

**AUTO TRIM BY GEORGE:** Truck seats; auto seats; headliners; boat seats; motorcycle seats; convertible tops; tonneau covers; rugs; construction equipment seats. 10% senior discount. Call George, 786-6073.

**EVERGREEN LANDSCAPING AND LAWN CARE:** Snow plowing—every third plow half off! Full landscaping, lawn maintenance; spring & fall clean-up; fully insured. Commercial & residential. Mike McEligott, 789-7550.

**AFFORDABLE CATERING FOR ALL OCCASIONS:** Peter Savenko & Family, 786-6168. 31 Oak Hill Avenue, Agawam.

**DISC JOCKEY SERVICE:** Providing the very best in entertainment and sound. Music Box Productions — DJ Tom Melbourne (certified professional). (413) 789-6788.

**TEDDY BEAR FAMILY DAYCARE:** Has full- and part-time openings, before and after school care, starting January 5, 1998. Clark and Phelps School area. CPR/First Aid certified. For more info, call Lisa at 786-2147. Lic. no. 185089. (Ages 2.9 yrs. up to 12 yrs.)

**SHADES ON WHEELS:** Your complete custom window treatment specialist, all at discount prices. Free estimates and installation — satisfaction guaranteed. (413) 786-9411.

**ELECTROLOGY ASSOCIATES OF HAMPDEN COUNTY:** Professional permanent hair removal. Free consultation. Doreen A. Prouty of Agawam, Registered Electrologist, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 15, West Springfield. By appointment — (413) 827-9696.

**A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT IS A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT:** Nonsense cleaning. Reliable, dependable. References available. Home or office. Call Susan, 786-1853.

**LUIGI'S AUTO BODY:** Celebrating 20 years of service. Specializing in American and foreign vehicles. Licensed & insured. 371 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. Tel. (413) 786-4975; Fax (413) 789-6404.

**A MUST SEE!** A unique new family daycare with openings in Feeding Hills. You'll be pleasantly surprised. Lic. no. 185723. 786-3045 (evenings), 786-2022.

**TUTORING:** Westfield State College student available to tutor jr. high & high school Spanish or math. Call 572-7221; leave message.

### FLEA MKT.

**AGAWAM'S J.R.S. FLEA MARKET:** On Suffield Street (Route 75) behind McDonald's. Largest flea market in New England. Open Saturdays and Sundays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For further information, call 786-2850.

### FOR SALE

**FOR SALE:** The Firm Exercise Tapes (18 total), \$50; NIV Bible on Cassette (48 tapes), \$50; crib w/o mattress (like new, gray pickled wood), \$75. 788-3416 (day) or 821-0810 (evenings).

**FOR SALE:** 1989 Plymouth Voyager - \$2,895; 1988 Taurus Wagon - \$1,895. Both in excellent condition. Call Frank at 786-9914.

**FOR SALE:** 1987 Honda Civic. \$2,200. A/T, air, new tires, front brakes, exhaust; IBM comp. 386. B.O. Call 786-7734. Leave message.

**FOR SALE:** 1974 Mercedes Benz 4 dr. sedan. 6 cylinder, gas, P/W, P/L, A/C, p. moon roof, leather seats. Runs; needs TLC. \$800 or best offer. (413) 786-8736.

**FOR SALE:** Nordic Trak Pro-Model Cross Country Ski Machine. Attached workout computer. Call 786-7699 from 6-8 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** 1984 Ford Bronco F/Z 4x4 with plow. Soft top, alarm, AM/FM/cassette, cell phone, carpet, 2 sets of tires and rims, lighted visor and more. Too much to list; must sell (will sell with or without plow). \$6,000 or best offer. (413) 786-8736.

**LOVESEAT FOR SALE:** Rowe, contemporary, camel back, ivory fabric, pillows, arm covers. Like new. \$299. (860) 668-5245.

### CARS FOR SALE

**BRIAN MOTORS:** 11 High Street, Suffield, Connecticut, (860) 668-0712.  
1988 Cad. Sedan Deville, 78K ..... \$3,895- \$2,995  
1985 Cad. Stretch Limo, 72K ..... \$2,695  
1986 Cad. Sedan Deville ..... \$1,595  
1992 Ford Tempo, full power, 76K .. \$3,695- \$3,295  
1987 Ford Van, 15 pass., looks & drives like new, 77K

### WANTED

**WAITRESSES NEEDED:** Immediate openings for day, night, and late night Fri. & Sat. from 8 p.m. - 3 a.m. See Michael at Michael's Cafe, 525 Spfld. St., 789-1917.

### FOR RENT

**AGAWAM APTS. FOR RENT:** Please call 786-4304.

**HELP WANTED:** Full time — 35 hours per week. Pharmacy, clerk position. Ryan Drug, Agawam Center. John Ryan, 789-3350. Apply in person.

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### Peter Savenko & Family

31 Oak Hill Avenue  
Agawam

786-6168

E-mail: PSAVENKO@SPRINTMAIL.COM

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Celebrating 20 Years Of Service

**Specializing In American And Foreign Vehicles, Including Saab, Volvo, Also Light Trucks**

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## Bill Spear Forestry Services

15% DISCOUNT ON ALL TREE WORK SCHEDULED BEFORE JANUARY 19TH.  
(WITH THIS AD.)



- ★ TREE REMOVAL
- ★ TREE TRIMMING
- ★ LAND CLEARING
- ★ BRUSH CHIPPING
- ★ STUMP GRINDING

**Year-Round 24-Hour  
Emergency Storm Service**

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Serving Agawam And Surrounding Areas  
Since The Tornado Of 1979

FREE ESTIMATES / SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

All Phases of Professional Tree Work

**786-5081**



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### MASTERCARE CAR SERVICE

## GUARANTEED:

### WE'LL MEET ANY PRICE!

Or We'll Refund 150% of the Difference on the brands we Sell! Just show us your tire advertised for less by a local competitor within 30 days of your purchase.

Hurry! COUPON Exp. 2/14/98

## OIL CHANGE & FILTER

FREQUENT VITAL ENGINE MAINTENANCE INCLUDES REFILL OF UP TO 5 QTS. KENDALL® 10W-30 OIL.

Only!

# \$10<sup>99</sup>

Most Cars. Can not be combined with any other offer or coupon.

4-Tire Rotation \$5.00 Additional

## COMPLETE VEHICLE INSPECTION

### In-depth visual analysis of major systems

- Tires
- Brakes
- Fluid Levels
- Exhaust System
- Shocks & Struts
- Lights & More...
- Suspension
- Belts/Hoses
- Battery

# \$15<sup>99</sup>

Most Cars Exp. 2/14/98

Reg. Price \$19.99

## RADIATOR SERVICE

### COMPLETE SERVICE

- Inspect radiator including: belts, hoses, radiator cap & clamped connections
- Pressure test for leaks
- Remove old anti-freeze & contaminants
- Flush & clean radiator, heater core & engine block
- Refill system with required amount of recycled anti-freeze

# \$39<sup>99</sup>

Reg. Price \$79.99

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## MAINTENANCE TUNE-UP

According to the service schedule in your owner's manual, we'll install new Bosch spark plugs.

4 Cyl. **\$39<sup>99</sup>** 6 Cyl. **\$49<sup>99</sup>** 8 Cyl. **\$59<sup>99</sup>**

Reg. Price \$49.99 Reg. Price \$59.99 Reg. Price \$69.99

Most vehicles. Platinum plugs, transverse V-6 engine & A/C interference extra.

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## ALL WHEEL ALIGNMENT

Helps prevent early tire wear with computerized accuracy. Plus, we inspect steering/suspension. Parts and rear shims extra, if needed.

Thrust Angle **\$39<sup>99</sup>** 4 Wheel **\$49<sup>99</sup>**

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Most Cars

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### SPECIAL PURCHASE DOMESTIC CAR RADIAL Limited Warranty

## 35,000 MILE

### 4 For \$67

P155/80R13 80 &amp; 75 series sizes only.

### Firestone FR360 RADIAL Limited Warranty

## 45,000 MILE

### 4 For \$109

P155/80R13 15" price below excl. P235/75R15.

### ALL 13" SIZES

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### ALL 14" SIZES

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### 4 FOR \$166

### ALL 15" SIZES

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When you use your Autopass Credit Card:

## 90 Days Same as Cash



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### IMPORT CARS

### LEMANS METRIC RADIAL

All Season, Steel Belted

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155R12

35,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

White Letters	Price
155R13	\$27.99
165R13	29.99
175/70R13	33.99
185/70R13	34.99
185/70R14	35.99
195/70R14	39.99

## SALE!

### PERFORMANCE

### LEMANS HR RADIAL

Low Priced, H-Speed Rated

## \$42<sup>99</sup>

P185/60HR14

40,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

Blackwall	Price
P195/60HR14	\$49.99
P205/60HR15	55.99
P215/60HR15	56.99
P205/65HR15	57.99
P215/65HR15	58.99

## SALE!

### SPORT UTILITY

### LEMANS RADIAL A/T

All Season, 2 Steel Belts

## \$48<sup>99</sup>

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OUR BEST PRICE FOR LIGHT TRUCKS

White Letters	Price
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31X10.50R15	79.99
P235/80R10	84.99
32X11.50R15	89.99
P245/75R16	94.99
33X12.50R15	95.99

### DOMESTIC

### Firestone FR440 RADIAL

Long Mileage, Quiet Ride

## \$30<sup>99</sup>

P155/80R13

60,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

Blackwall	Price
P185/75R14	\$48.99
P195/75R14	50.99
P205/75R14	51.99
P205/75R15	53.99
P215/75R15	55.99
P235/75R15	58.99

### BRIDGESTONE

### TURANZA T

High Performance Handling

## \$69<sup>99</sup>

P185/70HR14

50,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

Black Letters	Price
P195/60HR14	\$74.99
P195/65HR14	75.99
P195/60HR15	79.99
P195/65HR15	79.99
P205/60HR15	83.99
P205/65HR15	85.99

### IMPORT CARS

### BRIDGESTONE S402 RADIAL

S-Speed Rated Handling

## \$24<sup>99</sup>

155/5R13

50,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

Blackwall	Price
165/5R13	\$39.99
175/5R13	41.99
185/5R13	43.99
185/5R14	45.99
195/5R14	49.99
205/5R14	51.99

### Firestone F-570 RADIAL

Premier Small Car Tire

## \$40<sup>99</sup>

165/70R13

60,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

Blackwall	Price
175/70R13	\$42.99
185/70R13	45.99
185/70R14	47.99
195/70R14	48.99
205/70R14	52.99

### PERFORMANCE

### Firestone FIREHAWK GTA

Firestone Proven Performer

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40,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

Black Letters	Price
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P195/60HR15	64.99
P205/60HR15	67.99
P215/65HR15	71.99
P225/60HR15	75.99
P205/55HR16	85.99

### BRIDGESTONE

### TURANZA H

High Performance Handling

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P195/70HR14

50,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

Black Letters	Price
P195/60HR14	\$93.99
P195/65HR14	95.99
P195/60HR15	94.99
P195/65HR15	95.99
P205/60HR15	97.99
P205/65HR15	100.99

### SPORT UTILITY

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LTP235/75R15	65.99
LTP265/75R16	107.99
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31X10.50R15LT B	94.99
32X11.50R15LT C	98.99

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Our Best Highway Ride

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White Letters	Price
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31X10.50R15	101.99
31X11.50R15	108.99
LT265/75R16	113.99
33X12.50R15	116.99

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